

# THE TIMES

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THURSDAY APRIL 20 1995

## 78 killed by US terrorist car bomb

### Suspicion falls on Islamic militants and Waco cult

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND TOM RHODES IN OKLAHOMA CITY

AT LEAST 78 people, including 17 children, were killed when a huge car bomb destroyed a government building in the centre of Oklahoma City yesterday. Hundreds more were injured by the explosion, which could be heard 30 miles away and caused immense damage to the surrounding area.

The 1,000lb bomb was believed to have been planted in the underground car park of the nine-storey Alfred Murrah building, which has a day-care centre for children in the basement. It ripped away an entire side of the building, spewing burning debris across the surrounding streets, setting nearby cars alight and sending huge billows of black smoke into the sky.

More than 500 federal employees work at the building, which houses several government agencies, including the secret service and the drug enforcement agency — but many had not arrived for work when the bomb went off just after 9 am.

It was not immediately clear who was responsible for the blast, but the FBI issued an alert for three men, two of whom were described as Middle Eastern, with dark hair and beards, who were seen driving away in a brown van with darkened windows.

The explosion coincided with the second anniversary of the assault on the Branch Davidian cult in Waco, Texas, which left 75 people dead: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which led the assault on the compound, operates from the Alfred Murrah building, but members of the sect gathered for a memorial service yesterday angrily denied that they had carried out a revenge attack.

One anonymous caller claimed that the militant black Nation of Islam organisation was responsible, but the group denied responsibility. The White House said it knew of no warning being issued. The FBI set up a command centre in Washington to manage the investigation and a "very troubled" President Clinton vowed to bring those responsible to justice.

Frank Keating, the Governor of Oklahoma, said: "Obviously, no amateur did this."



An injured baby boy is carried out: 17 children died

Whoever did this was an animal," said a rescue worker, backed up by military helicopters and emergency experts sent from Washington, struggled for hours to help survivors, but their efforts were hampered by reports of a second bomb in the building. "We have to crawl on our stomachs and feel our way and we're talking to victims who are in there and reassuring them that we're doing everything within the good Lord's power to reach them and get to them," Assistant Fire Chief Jon Hansen said.

One nurse said that she and her colleagues had been told to disband because officials had told them they had found 80 people, of whom only two were alive. Another paramedic said that at least 17 children were dead.

"It's just body after body after body in there," one rescue worker at the scene said. Rescuers formed a human chain 30 yards long going from what appeared to be the back door. The main city hospital set up an emergency centre near the site and appealed for extra help and blood donors.

Carole Lawton, 62, a secretary in the department of Housing and Urban Development, said she was sitting at her desk on the seventh floor when "all of a sudden the windows blew in. It got real dark and the ceiling just started coming down." She then heard "the roar of the whole building crumbling." She managed to crawl down some stairs and was not injured.

Dazed and bloodied survivors sat on pavements near by and volunteers ferried the wounded to hospitals in private cars while others were treated on the spot. Other people frantically searched for loved ones, including parents whose children were in the day-care centre in the building and at another nursery down the street.

Downtown business stopped as buildings near by were evacuated. Ginny Griley, an office manager working on the thirtieth floor of a skyscraper several blocks away, said: "I thought we were dead. I've never heard anything that loud. It was just terrifying."

Millions of television viewers sat transfixed for hours as the tragedy unfolded before them in all its horror. Scenes broadcast on the live news

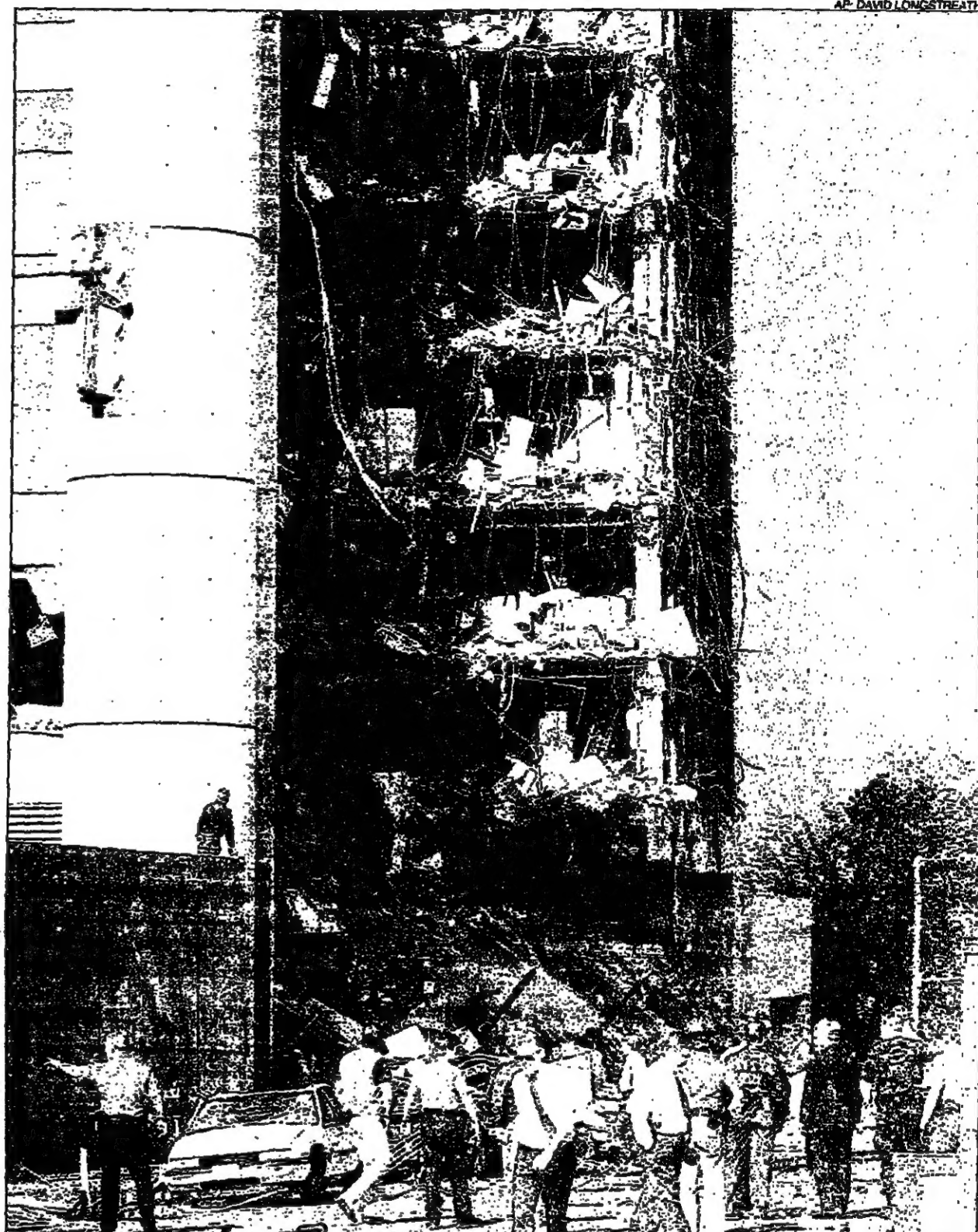
programmes included a veterinary surgeon from the Department of Agriculture pulled out from the rubble and coaxed slowly down a long metal ladder perched precariously at what used to be the Alfred Murrah building's fifth floor. Covered in dust and looking bewildered, he said: "There's no floor. There's nothing there. If somebody did this, what could be their motive to hurt that many innocent people?"

A colleague said he thought the explosion was an earthquake. "It was like slow motion. I felt a shake, then it began shaking more. I dived under my desk and then all the glass came in. I think that's what saved me. All the glass was going all over the office. I can walk from my office to the door, and there's nothing there any more. The only offices that were spared was my office and my secretary's."

Television viewers also saw about 200 people running away from the building after sniffer dogs detected another unexploded bomb in the rubble, while other emotive images included toddlers being carried away, their heads bandaged and faces covered in blood.

America is a country accustomed to terrorist attacks, but two years ago six people died and 1,000 were injured in the World Trade Center bombing in New York, an attack bearing similarities to yesterday's explosion. Then, a rented van blew up in a parking garage beneath one of the center's twin towers in New York. Four men were later convicted of causing the explosion.

Yesterday, President Clinton ordered tightened security at federal buildings throughout America. The White House spokesman Mike McCurry said: "Obviously the President's first and foremost concern is that everything be done to assist those who had been victims. We have directed that federal buildings take any necessary precautions." Those evacuated included government offices in Boston, Nebraska, Oregon and Delaware. The Boston City Hall was also cleared and the city's John F. Kennedy Federal Building was evacuated



Police and emergency workers at the Alfred Murrah federal government office building in Oklahoma City

because of complaints of tampering in offices of the Internal Revenue Service, the federal agency in charge of collecting taxes. IRS employees said "certain doors and things that should have been locked were found open," said Bob Dunfee, regional administrator for the General Services Administration, which oversees federal offices. "In response to the Oklahoma event, we're saying 'Let's be cautious

here," Mr Dunfee said.

Shortly after noon, a bomb threat was received at Boston City Hall and it also was evacuated, and city workers were told to go home for the day.

The federal building in Wilmington, Delaware, was also evacuated shortly after noon as a precaution after a telephone bomb threat.

Waco dispute, page 3

### Ultimatum for British Gas

David Hunt, the Citizen's Charter Minister, has told British Gas that it must raise its standards or lose the charter mark, the official government accolade for good performance. The company has been given until the end of the year to make the grade.

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Britain The Times overseas  
Australia \$2.40 Belgium 3.20  
Canada \$2.50 Denmark 3.50  
France 2.50 Germany 3.50  
Greece 3.50 Hong Kong 3.50  
India 3.50 Ireland 3.50  
Italy 3.50 Japan 3.50  
Netherlands 3.50 New Zealand 3.50  
Norway 3.50 Portugal 3.50  
Spain 3.50 Sweden 3.50  
Switzerland 3.50 Taiwan 3.50  
USA 3.50

### Rate rise fears as £ tumbles

BY JANET BUSH  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

FEARS grew of an interest rate rise next month after the pound was caught in the downward from the beleaguered American dollar and slumped to a fresh low against a basket of currencies.

Sterling's trade-weighted index dipped to 83.6, against its previous low of 84 in February 1993, before closing at 83.9. The fall threatens the Chancellor's golden scenario of steady growth with low inflation. Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, who met on May 5, had been hoping that the dollar, which has plunged by 20 per cent against the Japanese yen this year alone, would stabilise.

But there has been no respite and the City now believes that British interest rates will go up.

The minutes of a meeting between the Governor and the Chancellor on March 8 published yesterday suggest that Mr George wants the option to raise rates even before May 5 meeting.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18  
Your holiday pound, page 23  
New low, page 25



### Police name shot officer

A police officer shot dead in east London on Tuesday night was named yesterday as PC Phillip Walters, 28, from Harlow, Essex. Two men are in custody and a third is being hunted. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, described the incident as "very tragic" but rejected suggestions that more officers should be armed.

The captain of a Spanish trawler was fined £34,000 and ordered to pay £1,200 costs by Plymouth magistrates yesterday for fishing illegally in British waters. The magistrates ordered the trawler to be detained until the fines have been paid. Bones of immature fish were found hidden below piles of other fish.

### Pensions U-turn for war widows

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Government is to avoid a political storm in the approach to VE-Day by agreeing to extend eligibility for pensions paid to thousands of war widows.

Ministers have decided against trying to overturn a Lords decision to restore the £140 a week pension to war widows who have remarried and who have subsequently been bereaved or divorced.

The cost is likely to be £40 million a year. But ministers have decided that any attempt to reverse the Lords decision would fall when the Pensions Bill comes before the Commons next week.

Most of the 46,000 widows whose husbands died from injuries sustained on active service receive £7,924 a year, tax free. They lose the pension if they remarry.

The Lords decided that the payment should be restored if they are divorced or bereaved later. There have been reports that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, was trying to persuade the Cabinet to reverse the change.

Huge pressure from MPs of all parties have convinced ministers that this would be impossible. By last week some

190 MPs had signed a Commons motion calling on the Government to adopt the proposals "to honour the dead of two world wars and the campaigns since 1945 by paying Britain's war widows a pension for life".

Other improvements to help war widows were narrowly defeated in the Lords and the Government will come under pressure next week to make further concessions. These were not being ruled out last night.

There are only 48,000 war widows left from the 112,000 of 20 years ago. Eighty per cent are over 70 years old and campaigners point out that they will be a decreasing burden on the state.

The campaign in the Lords was led by Lord Freyberg, a crossbencher. He said: "These women have no pension at all. They are in severe financial difficulties."

Across the rest of Europe all war widows get a better deal. In Britain they are expected to choose between the possibility of a new marriage and happiness and the benefit of a continuous pension. This is a cruel choice."

### A WEEK IN THE TIMES

#### FILMS TODAY

Sigourney Weaver in *Death and the Maiden* page 33

Films of the week appear every Thursday.

PLUS: Books, Travel News, Body and Mind, William Rees-Mogg and Janet Daley

Tomorrow: the Valerie Grove interview, Caitlin Moran on modern music, and Infotech

● A NEW record sale of 631,638 copies a day was set by The Times in March. Year-on-year audited sales were up by 160,896 (34 per cent), the highest increase achieved by any national newspaper.

This Blind little boy is no longer Homeless, but thousands of others ARE.



Jaras, aged six, lives happily in Pattaya Orphanage, Thailand. The orphanage was founded 20 years ago to care for homeless children, children who are blind, without hearing or severely handicapped. A home, an education and, above all, love have saved little Jaras from a short life on the streets; a prey to hunger, corruption and, almost certainly, an early death. Your gift or sponsorship can help ensure that other children get a better chance in life too.

☐ I enclose a gift for the orphanage of £.....  
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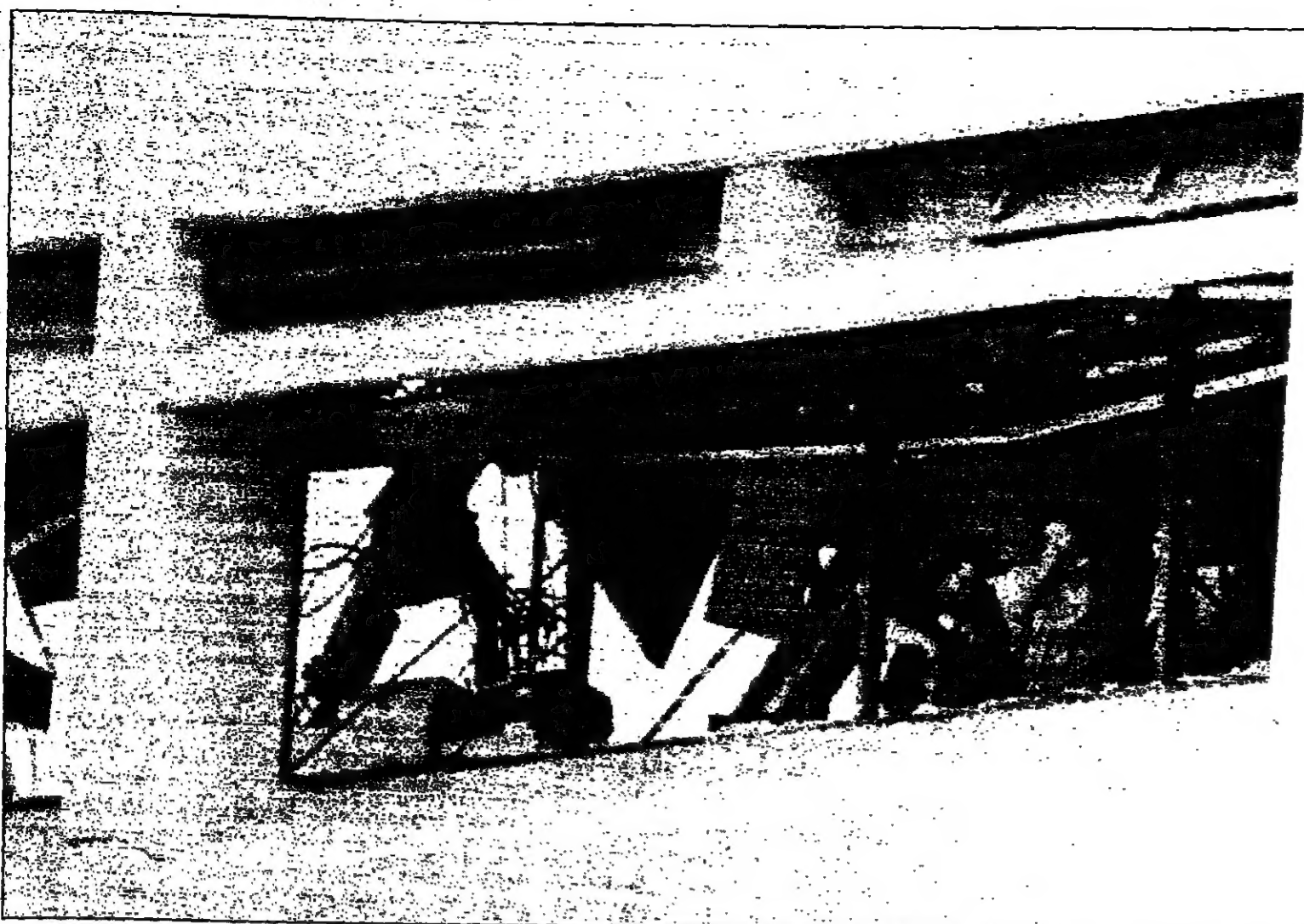
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Two women wait to be rescued from the upper floors of the Alfred Murrah building in Oklahoma City yesterday after a car bomb exploded killing scores of people

## Dispute still rages over Waco inferno

BY ALAN HAMILTON  
MARTIN FLETCHER AND  
GILES WHITTELL

Since the Waco disaster two years ago, the American authorities have been widely criticised for their handling of the affair. There is a significant minority of Americans, particularly on the libertarian Right, who feel the assault was unjustified and that the Branch Davidian cultists, led by David Koresh, were badly wronged.

The Waco siege began on February 28, 1993, when the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) mounted an abortive raid on the compound to arrest Koresh and his followers for illegally stockpiling arms. In the ensuing gunfight, four ATF officers and six cult members died. An FBI siege lasting 51 days followed, and riveted America. Neither negotiations nor aggressive psychological warfare tactics persuaded Koresh and his followers to surrender. On April 19, 1993, it ended in a noon-day apocalyptic of biblical proportions.

Eighty-six people, including 15 children under the age of ten, died in the inferno which reduced the fortress of insanity to smoking rubble in less than an hour. Only nine people survived. Twenty-six of the dead were Branch Davidians, many of them former Seventh-Day Adventists recruited to the cult from Nottingham and Manchester.

Argument has raged since over whether the all-consuming flame was lit as a result of the FBI assault, or whether the inmates of the Mount Carmel complex chose a defiant death of self-immolation. It took the authorities weeks to recover and identify the bodies.

Koresh had taken over the farm on the Texas prairie in 1987 and rebuilt it into a heavily-fortified headquarters for his bizarre cult, headed by himself as the self-styled Lamb of God. The day after the initial ATF assault, the farm was surrounded by 500 armed police and FBI agents, and so began seven weeks of negotiations between besiegers and besieged. Nineteen children,



The blazing end of the Branch Davidian sect's compound at Waco in Texas two years ago yesterday

aged between five months and 11 years, and a number of adults, several of them elderly, were allowed to leave the compound, but Koresh consistently refused to give in. The FBI claimed that it wished to free the inmates because they suspected child sexual abuse was taking place within. But they later admitted they had no evidence to support their claim.

On the 51st day of the siege, FBI patience ran out. Just before sunrise on April 19, an M60 military engineers' tank equipped with a long boom lumbered up to the walls of the compound under a hail of small-arms fire from within, and smashed a hole in the wall. Through the gap it squirted teargas, which the FBI subsequently claimed was non-toxic and non-flammable.

The exercise was repeated a dozen times during the morning. Tanks smashed more holes in the walls and pumped in more teargas in the expectation that it would drive the inmates out.

But it did not. Instead, the FBI, police and a vast crowd of spectators outside were horrified to see, a few minutes after midday, smoke billowing

from the roofs at opposite ends of the complex, quickly followed by flames that leapt hundreds of feet into the air. Within minutes, Mount Carmel was a pillar of fire.

Witnesses in police helicopters hovering over the scene claimed to have seen cult members deliberately start at least three fires within the compound. Survivors reported hearing the excited shouts of other inmates: "The fire is lit, the fire is lit." Some said the blaze had been started by the boom of an M60 tank knocking over a paraffin lamp, while others claimed that Koresh had previously ordered the entire complex to be doused with petrol.

The FBI claimed that Koresh had given the order for a mass suicide. One survivor told police that, when the fire started, Koresh told his hapless disciples: "Stay put, do nothing, wait until you see God. God is coming, the end is nigh." Relatives of some of the dead described the FBI operation as "disgusting", alleging that the agency knew perfectly well that Koresh was unhinged and quite likely to engineer

some form of mass suicide. His body was found with a bullet hole in his forehead.

After the fire came the recriminations. President Clinton and Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, continued to insist that there was growing evidence of child abuse. Ms Reno said that, if she had felt there was any danger of mass suicide, she would never have authorised the operation. She went on to accept full responsibility for the disaster and admitted the assault had been a mistake, but survived calls for her resignation.

That autumn the Treasury Department, of which the ATF is part, condemned the ATF for its handling of the initial raid, calling it ill-planned, ill-executed and "tragically wrong". Stephen Higgins, the ATF director, was dismissed. A separate Justice Department report concluded that the cultists had started the fire that destroyed the compound.

In February last year, a Texas district court acquitted the 11 survivors of charges of murder arising from the deaths of the four ATF agents in the initial raid, though seven were convicted on lesser charges of weapons posses-

sion and later imprisoned. Americans were left with the feeling that the entire operation, and the Administration's explanations for it, had been confused, contradictory and inept.

Last night, the whereabouts of the five survivors, and other sect members outside the compound at the time of its destruction, was unclear. Last summer three Branch Davidians were found stockpiling weapons in a cabin in the mountains of Colorado, apparently hoping to revive the sect. They were being closely watched by the FBI and local sheriff.

The former wife of one of the sect's founders continued for a long time to live in a shack on the site of the destroyed compound.

A Briton jailed after the Waco siege denied yesterday that his sect had bombed the Oklahoma building. Renof Avraam, 31, from Tottenham, north London, was imprisoned for 30 years in June 1994 for possessing a firearm during the commission of a violent offence.

"There's no way these bombings are anything to do with Branch Davidians," he

said from his cell in El Reno prison. "I've been watching it on TV and it's absolutely horrifying. We just would not get involved in anything like this."

"I'll admit it's kind of strange that it has happened two years to the day of Waco, but we are not terrorists. It wouldn't be anything to do with Branch Davidians. We are interested in God and peace, so to do something like this would be against what we believe in."

Avraam spent two years in Waco before the siege. He will appeal against his conviction and sentence in May 1995.

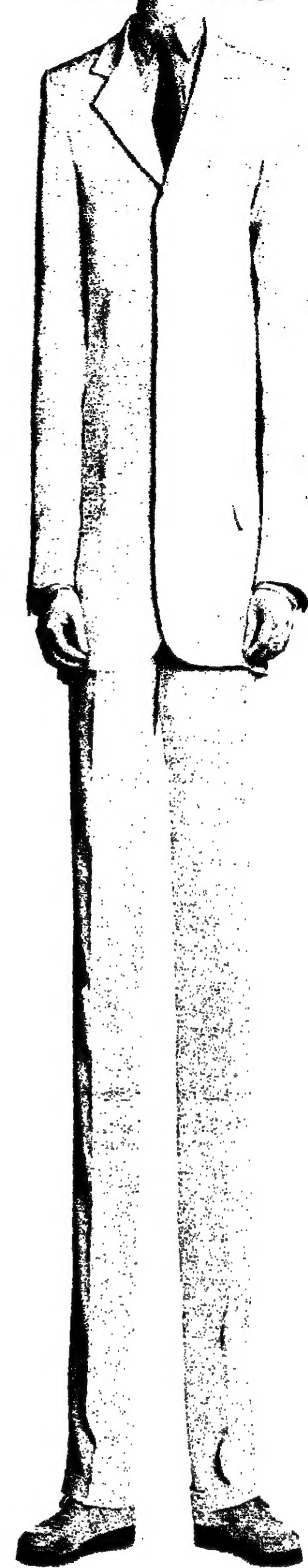
There was no cheering on Mount Carmel, near Waco, when news came through yesterday morning of the Oklahoma City bombing, according to a speaker at a memorial service on the second anniversary of the storming of the compound.

"It's a tragedy, and that was the reaction of everyone at Mount Carmel," James Pate told *The Times* shortly after the service. "Everyone was very sad. There certainly weren't any cheers or anything. I don't think there's any reason to connect the bombing to the Branch Davidians."

A spokesman for the sect had earlier denied responsibility for the tragedy. Mr Pate, a staunch supporter of the Branch Davidians and writer on the role of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, said the fact that the explosion in Oklahoma City occurred on the second anniversary of the raid was an "unfortunate coincidence".

Some 250 people, including roughly a dozen survivors of the April 1993 raid, attended yesterday's service on the site of the compound. Mr Pate said. News of the Oklahoma bombing was relayed to them between speeches by someone who had heard it on the radio. The service was addressed by Ramsey Clark, a lawyer and formerly the United States Attorney-General, who is representing survivors of the Waco raid in lawsuits against the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

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SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



What do you do in the office, Daddy?

PARENTS AT WORK, BY THEIR DAUGHTERS

WEEKEND

PEACE AND QUIET v. OFF-ROAD DRIVERS



## US agents try to unravel Islamic terror network

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

EVER since the World Trade Centre bombing in New York in 1993, investigators have uncovered growing evidence of an Islamic terrorist network determined to strike against the United States.

The breakthrough came in February when American agents captured Ramzi Yousef, accused of masterminding the World Trade Centre blast, at a hotel in the Pakistani capital of Islamabad. Investigators have established links between Mr Yousef and Islamic radicals as far afield as Pakistan, Denmark and the Philippines. Four Islamic radicals have already been sentenced to life imprisonment for their part in the World Trade Centre bombing.

Sheikh Omar Abdel Rahman, the leader of Egypt's fundamentalist movement, and 11 followers are now on trial for plotting a subsequent "day of terror" in New York with simultaneous bombings of commuter tunnels, bridges, FBI offices and the United Nations building.

The World Trade Centre explosion on February 26, 1993, left six dead and more

than 1,000 injured, the largest terrorist attack at the time on American soil. About 1,000lbs of homemade explosives were packed into the back of a rental van left in the basement car park.

By piecing together the serial number of the van from the wreckage, the FBI was able to catch the first suspect - Muhammad Salameh - within days as he tried to claim back the deposit he had put on the van, saying it had been stolen. Police quickly rounded up three other sus-



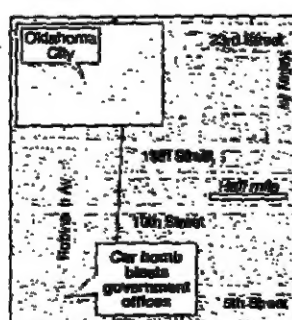
Abdel Rahman: on trial for "day of terror"

pects, but Mr Yousef had fled to Pakistan.

Despite a \$2 million (£1.3 million) reward, investigators picked up his trail only last January when police in the Philippines discovered a bomb factory in a flat in Manila.

American officials now believe Mr Yousef was responsible not just for the World Trade Centre bombing but also an attack on a Philippines airliner in December which left one Japanese passenger dead. He is thought to have been plotting other attacks on US airliners in Asia.

Mr Yousef is now in custody in New York, along with Kahim Murad, a friend and associate who was extradited last week from the Philippines. Both are believed to be soldiers in a group calling itself the Fifth Battalion of the Liberation Army, an anti-Israeli group based in Pakistan. In his first interview since his arrest, Mr Yousef said he was "only a supporter of the liberation army which claimed responsibility for the attack on the World Trade Centre".



Dustbowl turns oil producer

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

OKLAHOMA takes its name from the Choctaw Indian words for "land of the red people". Once the hunting ground of Comanches and Apaches, it still has the highest Native American population of any state except California.

Oklahoma became the 46th state of the Union in 1907 and was the most important oil producer until the end of the 1920s. It now ranks fifth. Many Oklahomans trekked to California in the 1930s to escape a vast farming dustbowl. But by the 1980s, military and industrial development, as well as big rises in oil and gas revenues, had turned Oklahoma into one of the fastest growing states.



# Shape up or lose charter mark, British Gas told

By Philip Webster, Political Editor

BRITISH Gas was put on probation by the Government yesterday as ministers tried to shame it into improving its services to customers.

David Hunt, the Citizen's Charter Minister, added to the troubles of Cedric Brown, the British Gas chief executive, by telling him that it must raise its standards or lose the charter mark, the official government accolade for good performance. The company has been given until the end of the year to make the grade.

While the complaining customers of British Gas may not regard that as the most draconian of penalties, it is one of the few ways the Government can indicate its disapproval of the way the company is being run. It is a further setback to Mr Brown, who has been under pressure over the 75 per cent increase in his salary to £475,000 earlier this year.

It would be the first time that any company had lost a charter mark, awarded under the Citizen's Charter for excel-

lence in the provision of public services. Ministers believe that the threat of humiliation will drive the company to a better performance.

The move follows representations to Mr Hunt from the Gas Consumers' Council, which has reported a big increase in complaints from the public over accounts, servicing and repairs, staff manners, lack of reply to letters and the non-answering of

telephones. The council has accused British Gas of "cutting corners in customer care".

A clearly chastened British Gas agreed swiftly to an action programme designed to improve its performance and image. That involves:

- More training for staff dealing directly with customers.
- Front-line staff will be empowered to make amends to dissatisfied customers.
- Additional telephone lines to ensure that 90 per cent of calls are answered in 30 seconds or less.
- Increased staffing and weekend working to clear the backlog of correspondence and telephone inquiries.
- A leaflet to all customers outlining the changes in the structure of British Gas.
- A national quality audit to ensure that service work is of the highest quality.
- A freephone number to enable customers to discover the location of their nearest payment outlet.

Ministers said last night

that British Gas's agreement to an action plan was proof that the often-mocked charter had teeth. Mr Hunt said: "I believe that this very positive programme shows the real value of the charter mark scheme as a reward for excellence — the charter mark means business."

He added: "British Gas have assured me that their aim is to re-establish their reputation for excellence as quickly as possible and that their new structure will ultimately enable them to be more responsive to customers. They are determined to provide the highest levels of service."

Up to 100 charter marks are awarded each year and it would require a sustained drop in performance for a winner to lose one.

Complaints against British Gas have soared in recent months. On January 19 the consumers' council wrote to Mr Hunt suggesting that the company be given a timetable for regaining its standards.



Hunt: hails action plan



Pavarotti at Harrods yesterday: "This perfume is sexy"

## Pavarotti sells the essence of his life at £27 a bottle

By Joe Joseph

A FLUSTERED minder squeaked "This is not in the schedule," as Luciano Pavarotti stopped for an impromptu pizza in Harrods Food Hall en route to launching his new men's fragrance.

The crowd swelled. The pizza chef sang a Neapolitan aria. And Luciano — dressed in a hippo-sized green barbour and a colourful tablecloth around his neck — smiled contentedly as the jangled from-devotees handing over £27 for a 75ml flask of his *ess de toilette*.

The smell? According to the press information sheet, there is a "bouquet of Sicilian lemon, neroli, Paraguayan petit-grain and verbena... Egyptian geranium leaves... Damascus roses... cloves from Madagascar... Sumatran patchouli".

So a bit like *Old Spice*, then? "Er, ya, no," Paola Schmid, of the Italian manufacturer Eurocosmesi, said. "Old Spice is very nice, but this is more... unusual."

You mean because of the "staunch benzoin and opoponax given added vigour by the oriental tones of Tonka-bean, Haitian vanilla", and because the whole thing "blazes forth with intoxicating opulence before yielding to oak-musk and amber"? You got it exactly, Mrs Schmid said.

And what did Luciano think of it? "They say this

perfume is sexy," he purred through that huge, hairy smile. So it makes you more desirable to women? "Oh, yes," Pavarotti declared, the fragrance himself. Eurocosmesi approached him a year ago. "He wanted to smell like his sense of humour," Mrs Schmid said.

To the adoring crowds, Pavarotti was passing out signing their books of *ess de toilette*, their opera programmes, their books, drawing the line only at autographing a *Daily Express* review of his performance in *Un ballo in maschera* at Covent Garden last week.

He joins a creaky queue of celebrities who have launched their own scents. Most — from Linda Evans's *Crystal* and Joan Collins's *Scandal* to Sophia Loren's *Remember* and Herb Alpert's *Liza* — failed.

Elizabeth Taylor's *White Diamonds* is a rare success, sustained by Miss Taylor's personal promotional appearances. But if Pavarotti is a success, the opera singer may revive the trend. Look out for *Cantata No 5*, the after-shave. That packs a punch: *L'Air de Blair*, Tony's formula guaranteed to attract women, men, some unionists, and even Paul Johnson, Bottomley's trademark scent that has an instant distancing effect on your closest colleagues.

## Air pocket in hat saves life of buried geologist

By Michael Horensell

A CAMBRIDGE University researcher buried for more than an hour in a 20ft trench attributed his survival to an air pocket created by the hard hat he was wearing.

Cunhai Gao, 32, a Chinese-born geologist, was collecting soil samples at a farm in Willingham, Cambridgeshire, when the trench collapsed. After treatment in hospital, he said yesterday: "I still can't really believe how I survived. I owe my life to my hard hat which trapped some air and allowed me to breathe."

Firemen had to scrape away soil using their hands and small trowels because they feared that using a mechanical digger could seriously injure Mr Gao. After an hour of careful digging they were amazed to find that he had suffered only from hypothermia and a broken arm.

Geoff Quince, a fireman, said: "We thought we were digging out a body until he started to talk to us. He is an extremely lucky man. He was helped because he was doubled up and his head had slipped off his back to create an air pocket around his face."

Mr Gao, of Arbury, Cambridge, who is married with a five-year-old son, said: "I cannot describe how overjoyed I was as they dug me free. When I saw the blue sky again, I thought my life was starting all over again. This is my second life now."



Gao: "I still can't really believe how I survived"

## Naming ceremony offered as alternative to baptism

By Alice Thomson

POLITICAL REPORTER

FIRST MPs changed the laws to allow civil marriages to be held in castles and boats, now they want parents to be able to choose where to hold christenings.

Frank Field, Labour MP for Birkenhead, and Lord Young of Darlington, who started the Consumers' Association, are co-sponsoring a Bill this week which would allow a civil naming ceremony as an alternative to the Christian baptism. Parents would be able to choose between their back garden or a castle, and whether they wanted poems or prayers, rings or crosses for their baby's first rites.

A registrar would conduct a welcoming ritual and the parents would express their commitment to the child. They could also appoint godparents or sponsors and would be encouraged to make a will.

A precedent was set when MPs overturned the 160-year-old laws on weddings in January with a private member's Bill sponsored by Gyles Brandreth, Tory MP for Chester City. Universal Christian baptism in Britain is more than 1,000 years old but the number of children baptised has fallen from 68 per cent in 1950 to 29 per cent.

Mr Field hopes his Bill will confront the decline and growing anger that vicars are refusing to baptise children if their parents are not religious. He believes most people no longer view Baptism as a washing away of original sin, with the unbaptised not going to heaven.

"Baptisms are vitally important ceremonies for bringing families together. If the parents are not married it might be the first time the grandparents will have met each other and it gives everyone a chance to reflect on their responsibilities," he said.

Backbench MPs are ready to support the Bill and although officially the Government is saying nothing, the Health Secretary, Virginia Bottomley, is said to approve of the idea.

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'If people demonstrate peacefully, there will be no problem. If they break the law, they face arrest'

## Police warn protesters as Dover lifts livestock ban

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

DOVER is bracing itself for mass protests today when livestock exports to the Continent resume. Last week the High Court ordered the port to lift its ban on the trade.

The first shipment of animals for slaughter is due to leave the Eastern Docks for Dunkirk about 1.30pm on the *Cap Canaille*, a roll-on, roll-off vessel licensed to carry up to 15 lorries. The boat underwent berthing trials yesterday.

Kent police said they were "prepared for any eventuality" but were not seeking confrontation with animal rights activists. "If people protest peacefully, as they have every right to do, there will be no problem. But if they are breaking the law, then they may well be arrested," a spokesman said.

In contrast to Essex Police in Brightlingsea, Kent County Constabulary has made a point of not invoking the Public Order Act, which requires six days' written notice

to the police of any demonstration or procession. Twelve people were arrested under the Act in Brightlingsea on Tuesday.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, refused to comment yesterday on whether the Essex police were right to use the Act against demonstrators. "These are matters entirely for the local police to decide," he said. Kent police said that no



Waldegrave: EU support

leave or rest days had yet been cancelled. "We do not want to throw hundreds of officers at this problem if it is not necessary."

John Callaghan of Compassion in World Farming said: "We are expecting several hundred people at least to turn out. Our main concern is that the demonstration might be hijacked by people who have no real interest in animal welfare and who are aiming at other targets, such as the Criminal Justice Act."

Peter Gilder, the road haulier who brought the court case against Dover Harbour Board and chartered the *Cap Canaille*, said: "I am reasonably confident the protests will not be as large as some have predicted. We will be loading ten lorries carrying a total of about 3,000 sheep and calves. Another sailing is planned on Friday at the same time and then each day next week."

Keith Southey, Dover Harbour Board's public relations

manager, said: "We are hopeful the police will be capable of maintaining a free flow of traffic into the port. We will be open for business as usual."

During the High Court hearing, the board said animal rights protests could seriously disrupt other business or even force the port's closure. Dover handles 19 million passengers, three million cars and a million lorries a year and is approached by a single road.

Dover banned livestock cargo on January 6. The three main cross-Channel ferry operators, P&O, Stena Sealink and Brittany Ferries, had already stopped carrying farm animals, except for breeding. They are continuing with this policy. The court ruling affects only port authorities.

William Waldegrave, the Agriculture Minister, ruled out a unilateral ban on live animal exports and said Britain was "on the way" to winning European support for abolishing veal crates.



Glover: 'I've put a lot of people out of work'

## Fresh battles loom for animal warrior

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

WHILE police confronted demonstrators at Brightlingsea, the animal campaigner Mark Glover was already at the next flashpoint. He spent Tuesday in Dover, where exports of live animals for slaughter are due to resume today.

"You are going to see similar scenes," he said. "There will be major disruption. It will not take much of a demonstration for the whole thing to grind to a halt. I predict that will happen."

His words will be closely marked. Since his organisation Respect For Animals launched its campaign against the trade, all big ferry companies have banned live exports and the issue has topped the political agenda.

During 16 years as an animal warrior, Mr Glover, 41, has won many battles. While working for Greenpeace, he campaigned against the import of live dolphins and killer whales for dolphinariums: none has since been brought into Britain. Lynx, the anti-fur pressure group he founded with his

wife, achieved overnight public acclaim: the industry has all but vanished. Not bad for a man who started working life as an accountant.

After studying at universities in Hull, Leeds and Reading, he eventually abandoned a PhD to become Greenpeace's wildlife campaigner. In 1979 he sailed to the Faroes to confront whalers and helped to organise a climb to the top of Big Ben to hang a banner from the clock. He met his bride Lynne Kentish while they were chained outside the Norwegian Embassy demanding to see the Ambassador.

Respect For Animals, which campaigns against the fur trade abroad, chose last summer to target exporters of livestock. Mr Glover's strategy was to embarrass the ferry owners while they were nervous about competition from the Channel Tunnel. "I have put a lot of people out of work," he said. "It's a hard business to be in because you are constantly annoying people."

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## BBC goes live to remember VE-Day

By ALEXANDRA FREAN MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC is to screen ten hours of live television in a week of programmes marking the fiftieth anniversary of VE-Day on May 8.

It will include live coverage of the big public party in Hyde Park, London, which will begin when the Queen lights the Royal British Legion beacon. BBC cameras will be positioned at other beacon sites in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Much of the ambitious radio and television programming mirrors scenes the BBC covered half a century ago: the Queen Mother will be seen greeting the crowds from the balcony of Buckingham Palace, as she did 50 years ago.

The Prince of Wales will present *Thought for the Day* on Radio 4's *Today* programme, and Princess Margaret will give a rare interview in Margaret Rose's War, a television documentary about her wartime experiences.

Almost all of Radio 2 and Radio 4's output on May 8 will be devoted to the commemorations. ITN is to screen its own 110-minute programme, *VE Day Celebrations*, on the same day.

## Murdered boy 'held captive in Bristol'

By RICHARD DUCE

A BOY aged nine thought to have been murdered by paedophiles was probably held captive near to where his body was found, more than 100 miles from his home.

Police believe Daniel Handley was snatched from a street near his home in Beckett, east London, by two men who drove him to Bristol before he was killed. His remains were discovered on wasteland near the M4 six months after he disappeared.

Officers in Bristol said yesterday they believed the killer or killers had first held Daniel somewhere in the city before he was murdered and buried in a shallow grave at Bradley Stoke. Chief Inspector Roger Stockley said: "The murders know the area and know a good place to put the body. It is possible that he may have been held in Bradley Stoke for some time. He may have been kept at a house there. We believe there is a local link with Daniel's death."

Metropolitan Police officers investigating Daniel's murder said they hoped known paedophiles would provide a breakthrough in the case: a number had already been interviewed.

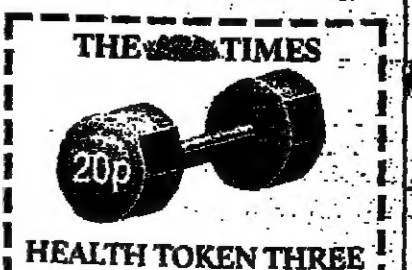
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## Nintendo firm on b



## Court rule on 'vulgar' window

## Veteran of H-bomb test wins his case

## Mother challenges

## uma over sex fear



# Nintendo puts British firm on big game map

By Nick Nuffall, Technology Correspondent

A UNIVERSITY drop-out who abandoned his studies for a summer job repairing amusement arcade games has signed a multimillion-pound deal with Nintendo, the Japanese video game company.

The move reflects the inroads British electronic games writers and designers are making into an industry once dominated by America and the Far East. Experts believe their success is partly due to the poor-quality computers British schoolchildren once had to use, forcing them to experiment with writing their own software to make the machines perform.

Christopher Stamper and his brothers Steve, 31, and Tim, 34, who also dropped out of university, set up their computer games company in a small terraced house next to their parents' newsagents shop 13 years ago. They now run Rare Ltd from a converted Queen Anne barn in the small Warwickshire village of Twycross and employ more than 80 people, including their mother and father.

"Dad shows visitors around

and anything else that's needed and Mum handles the catering side," Christopher, 26, said.

The Nintendo deal is notable not only for its size but the fact that the Japanese, who have taken a 25 per cent stake in the firm, have never invested in such a company outside Japan before. The agreement, which will allow the firm to expand its workforce to more than 200, follows the brothers' success with *Donkey Kong*, which since November has sold 7.4 million, netted £300

million and become the fastest selling video game.

The success could hardly have been foreseen when Christopher left Loughborough University after two years of an electronics and physics course for a summer job repairing Space Invaders machines in Burton upon Trent. "I built a computer using one of the very first microprocessors and got the feeling I was in the wrong course," he said.

The arrival of the Sinclair computer, designed by Sir

Clive Sinclair, was the spur for Christopher to set up on his own. "I went to see my brother Tim who was at Nottingham University. He wanted to drop out as well. We thought that we would be able to better the games that were being produced on the Sinclair."

The brothers moved into a terraced house in Ashby de la Zouch and six months later produced the *Jeopardy* game which sold 330,000 copies at £4.95. In the late 1980s they moved to Twycross and produced their first game, *Slalom*, for Nintendo.

The exact worth of the brothers remains confidential. All Christopher will say is: "We are certainly better off. When we set out it was a real struggle with us all chipping in to pay the electricity bill."

Their next battle is off-screen, with the local council and the Department of the Environment. They want to expand their offices by building on parkland near by, but planning permission is proving hard to come by.



Game brothers: Christopher, left, and Steve Stamper

Leading article, page 19



Marilyn Ivory: claims sex bias and unfair dismissal

## St Paul's tribunal told of smutty jokes in vestry

By Robin Young

SMUTTY jokes and sexual innuendo were an increasing feature of life at St Paul's Cathedral, it was claimed yesterday by a former woman virger who said that one of her senior colleagues had called her "a moaning bitch and a waste of space".

Marilyn Ivory, of Wandsworth, east London, is claiming sex discrimination and unfair dismissal against the Dean of St Paul's, the Very Rev Eric Evans. Mrs Ivory, who joined the cathedral staff in 1983, left in November 1992 after she had been appointed a till supervisor and later senior steward in a reorganisation of the virgers' department.

She told an industrial tribunal in Stratford that Michael Page, the preacher's virger, told "very smutty jokes" to his male colleagues in front of her. When Mr Page first came to the cathedral he used to nudge others or make facial expressions as if to say, "not in front of Lyn". Later, she said, "he lost his inhibitions". Mrs Ivory told the tribunal

that after she had to change her cassock for a business suit for her new appointment, Mr Page remarked: "So this is your new uniform, Lyn. I like a woman in red." He had continued in a similar vein.

Mrs Ivory said that after a service she had to lead Canon Michael Seward, the cathedral treasurer and head of the virgers' department, back to the vestry. She said that after she asked him if he was ready to take off his vestments, he laughed and said that it reminded him of a woman assistant virger who had asked him: "Can I take you upstairs now?"

She told the tribunal that at a meeting called in June 1991 Michael Heather, the head virger, had read comments which Mr Page, his deputy, had made. One described her as "a moaning bitch and a waste of space". She said that she had confronted Mr Page about it afterwards and he had not denied it. "He was embarrassed but not apologetic."

The hearing continues.

## Veteran of H-bomb test wins his case

By Kathryn Knight

AN RAF driver present at the Christmas Island nuclear tests has become one of the first men to win official recognition that the tests caused him to develop cancer.

Derek Mauger, 60, who suffers from non-Hodgkins lymphoma, has won a five-year battle to gain a war pension after new evidence from the Ministry of Defence about exposure to radiation on the island.

His victory comes a month after that of the Rev Laurence Deverell, who had his leg amputated after developing cancer in 1970 and won a High Court appeal. The court heard that his cancer was attributable to his RAF service during atom-bomb tests in Australia.

Now Mr Mauger will receive a weekly pension of £50 to help him with his illness after the Social Security Department agreed that his exposure to radiation during the tests was probably responsible. Mr Mauger, from Stafford, was employed as a driver on the Pacific island in 1957 and witnessed the explosion of a 1½-megaton hydrogen bomb a few miles offshore. He said the men were given little safety advice and told to wear only long trousers and long-sleeved shirts as protection against the explosion.

Mr Mauger said: "I am pleased with the decision because a lot of other people can now be helped with their claims. I don't think they put us out there because of negligence, just ignorance. But they should admit their ignorance has caused a lot of people to contract conditions like mine."



Mauger: war pension

## Court to rule on 'vulgar' window

By Bill Frost

THE fate of a stained-glass window in Sherborne Abbey is to be decided by a church court after all but two of the town's residents called for it to be replaced.

Twenty-seven assorted Old Testament prophets, kings and patriarchs have stared down from the west wall of the Dorset abbey for nearly 150 years, but they have never found favour with the faithful. The window's red discs, intended originally to be stars in the firmament, were compared by the Victorians to railway signals. Now they are dismissed as "traffic lights".

Even the vicar, the Rev Eric Woods, described the work by Augustus Pugin as "really quite vulgar". Mr Woods said that he quite sympathised with one young visitor who mistook the Old Testament worthies for "a collection of Mr Bobbies". He added: "A child looking up at the window just sees blobs of bright colour and pink faces with no detail and pink hands with no detail."

Whether the 1851 window should be replaced by a modern design showing the Virgin and child in various shades of soft green will be decided by Judge Ellison, Chancellor of the Diocese of Salisbury, at a rare sitting in the abbey of the Consistory Court, convened only at times of great division or crisis.

The petition to have the window replaced is led by Mr Woods and his churchwardens. Mr Woods told the court that Pugin's window had "no message" for worshippers or contemporary visitors to the abbey. Indeed, it is hard to imagine what message 27 assorted Old Testament prophets and patriarchs were originally meant to convey," he added.

However, Martin Harrison, a stained glass expert from the Victorian Society, said: "If they give the go-ahead for its removal, they will be killing a work of art. The window was designed for this position in the west wall. It's unique. To take it out would be a crime against the artist."

Judge Ellison's ruling is expected tomorrow.

## Mother challenges sauna over sex fear

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent

A MOTHER has taken her local council to court for licensing a sauna that she alleges will be used as a brothel.

The Edinburgh case is the first of its kind in Scotland and is likely to set a precedent. Many local authorities believe that if the council's action is upheld, the case could, in effect, lead to the decriminalisation of brothels in Scotland.

Debra Scanlan, 29, of Leith, has taken Edinburgh District Council and the sauna's owner to court alleging that the council acted illegally by granting an entertainment licence to Gemini Leisure. The case was taken up with legal submissions

yesterday and adjourned until today.

The council says the licence has been granted for a sauna and any illegal activities should be reported to the police. But the councilor of its licensing committee told *The Scotsman* that the council had, in the interests of health and safety, knowingly licensed saunas where sex was sold.

Those in favour of licensing saunas where sex is sold say there is less street prostitution in Edinburgh than in other Scottish cities. Ms Scanlan says it is inappropriate to have the sauna in a residential area, where it would pose a moral and physical danger to children.

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Report says Downing Street gates should go as first step in exploiting London's top tourist attraction

# Planners call for greater access to hidden Whitehall

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE gates at the entrance to Downing Street should come down as part of a plan to open Whitehall to the public, government advisers say. Their proposal is contained in a draft report, commissioned jointly by the National Heritage and Environment Departments, that will land on ministers' desks next month.

The report calls for Whitehall to be better exploited as one of London's greatest tourist attractions, with more access to historic buildings, a visitor centre, pedestrianised areas and walks through previously hidden courtyards and arcades.

The first study into the "urban design" of the historic centre of British government has been carried out by Jack Warshaw, of Conservation Architecture and Planning, and the architect Stephen Levant. Their brief included conservation of the area, realising the tourist potential, making Whitehall "user-friendly" and opening it to "the public realm" while recognising the continuing security requirements. The report covers the development of the entire area

bounded by the Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square, St James's Park and the Victoria Embankment.

Mr Warshaw said: "Over the years the area has become progressively more closed. This contrasts with the aims of open government and accessibility. When these buildings

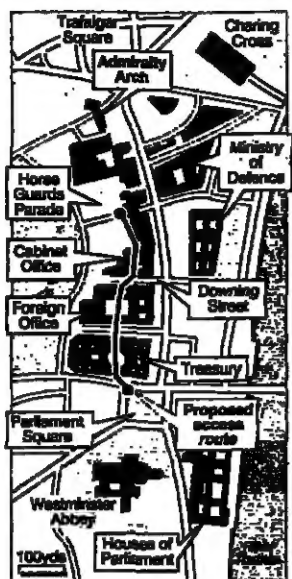
were first built anyone could wander into them. We need a vision of what we want Whitehall to be in 100 years."

The restrictions are best illustrated by the 10ft steel gates that block Downing Street from Whitehall. When they were put up during Margaret Thatcher's premiership in 1989, they ended 200 years of public right of way.

Mr Warshaw said: "It has to be an objective to bring down the gates. They were never intended to be permanent. Security arrangements are always changing."

The onset of peace in Northern Ireland has created an atmosphere in which greater access can be contemplated. John Gummer, the Environment Secretary who commissioned the report, is known to be keen to open Whitehall to the public, providing that security requirements can be met. The compilers of the report have had detailed talks with the security services about their proposals.

The draft report will be considered by government departments, English Heritage, Westminster City Council, the



The gates blocking Downing Street from Whitehall were put up for security purposes in 1989 during Margaret Thatcher's premiership

Royal Fine Art Commission, Royal Parks and the English Tourist Board. The final report will be presented to Mr Major in the summer.

Among the hidden treasures to which the public could be granted access are:

□ The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, built by Sir George Gilbert Scott between 1868 and 1873. The building has just undergone major restoration and contains some of the most splendid interiors in London and a magnificent grand staircase.

□ The Old Admiralty building, built by Thomas Ripley between 1722 and 1726 to house the sea lords and Admiralty House next door. The Royal Navy is due to move out next year and most of the fine state rooms and their ornate carvings have never been seen

by the general public. □ The Treasury, still referred to as Goggs (Government Offices, Great George Street), with its imposing facade of Portland stone, built between 1898 and 1912 by J.M. Brydon. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has announced plans to sell the elegant Edwardian building to the private sector,

with the Government leasing back the space it needs. □ The Old Treasury, now the Cabinet Office, another 18th-century architectural jewel, completed in 1733.

□ The wise cellar of Henry VIII's original Palace of Westminster, now in the basement of the Ministry of Defence building.



Horse Guards, as seen by Canaletto around 1750

Plans to "strengthen" the area will include the removal of concrete paving, tarmac, bollards, yellow lines and bus stop signs which the report's compilers say are "unpleasant". These would be

replaced with something more in keeping with a street which Simon Jenkins, in the foreword to a new book (*From Palace to Power*, an illustrated history of Whitehall by Susan Foreman, Alpha Press £35), says more than any other thoroughfare in the world is "a mirror of history".

The Government is keen to see Whitehall developed as a tourist attraction, making many of the proposed changes self-financing. The report will call for a visitor centre offering advice, literature and guided tours.

"We tried walking the area as tourists as part of our research," Mr Warshaw said. "There is so much that is closed but even where there is access there is much you would never see unless you knew it was there."

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### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### PC wins cash for shop shut

A policeman whose description was circulated among Asda stores by electronic mail after he was given a refund for bad meat has won thousands of pounds from the chain in an out-of-court settlement. PC David Eggleston of Ilkeston, Derbyshire, claimed that he was described as "suspicious". He said: "I am in a position of extreme trust and there has got to be no doubt in anyone's mind that I am 100 per cent trustworthy."

#### Hospital jobs

HCI International, a private hospital at Clydebank, Strathclyde, that went into receivership despite obtaining £30 million of public money, is to increase its 250 staff by 70 after Arab refinancing.

#### Speedy justice

A motorcyclist who drove at 154mph on the M40 to test a new 900cc Honda CBR Fireblade he had owned for two weeks was banned for a year by magistrates in Northamptonshire and fined £900.

#### Three die in crash

Three members of the same family, thought to be a couple and their son, were killed and a fourth seriously injured in a head-on collision between a car and a van on Tuesday night near Diss, Norfolk.

#### Worker killed

A 44-year-old man died yesterday after high-pressure equipment he was using caused a tank to explode. Two other men working at the wedding plant in Oldham, Greater Manchester, were unhurt.

#### Fish supper

A pike has killed a rare Slavonian grebe that was due to attract dozens of twitchers to a waterfowl park in Fakenham, Norfolk. The 10in bird, the first seen at the centre, was snared by its leg.

#### Heather deal

A Scottish fish farmer has agreed a deal with a council in Hampshire to buy tons of heather from the New Forest. The heather has proved ideal for use in filters to remove impurities from water.

#### Takeaway tunes

A record company has released a compact disc of the most popular tunes played in Indian restaurants. *Music for Dining* also includes Asian, French and Italian background music.

## Petrol stations told to reduce fumes

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A REDUCTION in fumes released from petrol stations, dry cleaners and paint factories was demanded by MPs yesterday.

The Commons Environment Select Committee, which has been studying the health risks of "volatile organic compounds" given off by petrol, vehicle exhausts, paints and solvents, is calling for vapour-recovery devices to be fitted to the pumps at all new filling stations. They believe further action is needed to preserve public health and to meet a recommended air quality limit of 50 parts per billion.

The fumes are thought to contribute to cancer, asthma and breathing difficulties, by forming low-level ozone on

still sunny days. Ozone pollution has also been linked with crop damage and harm to flowers and trees. Fume levels exceeded World Health Organisation guidelines in many parts of the country, and are preventing a spate of pollution alerts and warnings that people with heart conditions and asthma should refrain from vigorous exercise.

The committee says that all large petrol stations and those in polluted areas of the country should have vapour-recovery devices fitted by 1998. Small, rural stations would be exempt because of prohibitive costs.

Andrew Bennett, Tory MP for Denton and Reddish and the committee's chairman,

said yesterday at the launch of the report: "Although most people are unaware of the names and chemistry of volatile organic compounds, when exposed to their effects we all know what we are dealing with. For concern, one in five children now suffers asthma and is advised to stay indoors on hot summer days when ozone levels are high."

Britain emits 2.7 million tonnes of the chemicals, which include benzene, toluene and xylene, giving it the third worst record in Europe after Germany and France. Europe has undertaken to reduce emissions by 30 per cent by the year 2000 but the select committee wants this raised to 75 per cent.

It believes companies out-

side the oil industry must share responsibility by switching to less damaging chemicals and processes. Reducing VOC emissions is necessary, but it will not be painless. The report says that prices may have to rise and people be encouraged to use them less.

"Industries which use or produce solvents, including the coatings, printing and dry-cleaning industries, will face increased costs. In the committee's view, the price is worth paying."

The report also calls for industries using more than 0.25 tonnes of solvent a year to be registered so that councils can better target air quality action.

## Jewels smuggled in a petticoat go on sale for £3m

BY JOHN SHAW

JEWELLERY smuggled out of revolutionary Russia in a young girl's petticoat went on show in London yesterday.

The £3 million display belonged to Vera Hue-Williams, born Vera Sklarevskia in Kiev. She fled with her sister Olga and her mother, Baroness Kostovskaya, from the advancing Bolsheviks in 1917. Like many other white Russians, the three found their way to Paris. Vera went on to marry four times; three of her husbands were among the richest men in Britain.

They each left her a fortune and when she died aged 89 three years ago she left more than £9 million. Her furniture and paintings made £18 million at Sotheby's in December 1993 and now 37 pieces of jewellery will be sold for an estimated £3 million at Christie's in Geneva on May 18.

Matthew Girling, a jewellery specialist with the auction house, said yesterday: "These pieces evoke a glittering period before the war. It was a life which demanded a grand wardrobe and grand jewellery to match."

Mr Girling believes the original jewels from Russia may have included several antique pearls dating from the mid-19th century. One of them, 13.8mm long, is now part of a pearl and diamond pendant that is estimated at between £60,000 and £100,000. A pair of pearl drop and diamond pendants are put at £50,000 to £70,000. A ruby and diamond necklace is expected to fetch up to £70,000. A 14.81-carat Burmese ruby at its centre is described as of "the finest quality".

Vera, said to be strikingly beautiful, first married at 17. Her husband was a young British diplomat named Owen, who was killed on a mission to Turkey in 1927. Four years later she married Walter Cottingham, of the Berger Paint Company. He died in 1936 and she inherited his fortune and a seat on the board.

After the outbreak of war she married Thomas Lilley, chairman of the family shoe firm Lilley and Skinner. They founded Woolton House Stud near Newbury, Berkshire, in the 1940s. Their most successful horse was Altesse Royale, which won the 1,000 Guineas, the Oaks, and the Irish Oaks.

He died in 1959 and four years later married Colonel Roger Hue-Williams, who died in 1987.



Vera in the 1930s

THE TIMES

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**"HELLO STRANGER?"**



To all future drivers of the new Honda Civic 5-door 1.5i, a piece of advice.

When you find yourself in a brightly-lit forecourt, it's worth remembering that those funny-looking things with hoses are the petrol pumps.

At 58.6 mpg, you won't be troubling them too often.

The culprit is the VTEC-E engine. It's built to run so economically, it has an entry in The

Guinness Book of Records. Under 4,000 revs it behaves like a smaller engine by using only 12 of its 16 valves.

But when you open up, the rest engage and it's as though you had an entirely different beast under the bonnet. (On the motorway, you can actually hear the engine note change.)

The new Civic, built in Britain we might add, does a tad more than simply sip and shift.

It achieves an air-to-petrol burn ratio of just 22:1, so its emissions are cleaner.

Its road-holding is superior to any other car in its class thanks to a double-wishbone suspension system.

Double airbags are standard across the range, again unlike any other car in its category. And the rear is reinforced with a new roll-bar (so new, Honda have applied for a patent).

The new Civic can be had for between £12,080 and £14,880 - on the road prices that thoughtfully include a year's road tax.

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\*The Government figure shown is at a constant 56 mph. Further figures: Urban Cycle, 40.2 mpg. At a constant 75 mph, 43.9 mpg. Touring Average, 45.7 mpg.







## Chirac hint of economic relaunch gives market the jitters

FROM CHARLES BREMER IN PARIS

THE French presidential campaign took an acid turn yesterday as the rival-Gaullist camps sparred over the franc and Jacques Chirac, the strong favourite, gave the financial world the jitters by playing up his plans for relaunching the economy.

Absent from most of the long campaign, quarrels over economic policy and the drive for monetary union have assumed centre-stage before voters' eyes. Chirac, the nine candidates to two in the first round on Sunday. Although the publication of polls has

been banned since last Sunday, the political world assumes that M Chirac will sail through both rounds to the presidency on May 7.

Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, who is fighting to beat Lionel Jospin, the Socialist, into the challenger's place, has charged M Chirac with endangering France's return to growth with hints that he will reverse the costly high interest rates that have kept the currency linked to the German mark.

The franc was battered earlier this week after M Chirac rebuked the governor of the Banque de France for meddling in government affairs and it came under further pressure yesterday despite claims from M Chirac's team that he remained committed to a strong currency.

M Balladur, the steward of strict monetary policy for the past two years, attacked yesterday, accusing M Chirac of "playing with fire with talk that is dangerous for the currency, for the economy and for growth". Alain Juppé, the Foreign Minister and likely leader of a Chirac government, then struck out at his Prime Minister, accusing him of injecting a "hateful" note

into the campaign. "When you are a statesman, you do not put the currency at the centre of the debate," he said. Nicolas Sarkozy, the Budget Minister and M Balladur's spokesman, weighed in, accusing M Chirac of "making the franc lose its value".

In supporting M Jospin, Jacques Delors, the former President of the European Commission, denounced what he called the Gaullist recourse to "monetary populism" and said he was amazed to witness such squabbling "among people who supported the

Maastricht Treaty". Similar thoughts were voiced by German officials who are worried about the possible impact of a Chirac presidency on the Paris-Bonn tandem.

The quarrel goes to the heart of M Chirac's promises to reverse the priorities, observed by M Balladur and his Socialist predecessors, in which high unemployment has been tolerated as the necessary cost of low inflation and a strong currency. While supporting the goal of monetary union, M Chirac has been deliberately vague. He insists

that he will break with the orthodoxy, but has stopped short of saying that he will apply "l'autre politique", short-hand for the British-style reflation applied when sterling withdrew from the exchange-rate mechanism. In Nantes on Tuesday night, he railed at M Balladur for his belief that "we can control nothing, that political action amounts to the prudent management of constraints imposed from the outside".

Alain Madelin, the Business Minister and a possible future finance chief, said the franc

row was a closed chapter, but his reassurance was obliterated last night by Philippe Seguin, the radical voice among M Chirac's lieutenants. He said France had time, before monetary union in 1999, to embark on a different policy and added that devaluation was a possibility.

The Gaullist feud has been seized on by M Jospin and the half-dozen lesser candidates as they try to rally their supporters. M Jospin, 57, whose survival on Sunday is not a certainty, is pleading with left-wing sympathisers to

back him rather than wasting their votes on Robert Hue, the communist, Arlette Laguiller, the Trotskyite and Dominique Voynet, the Green candidate.

The signs of expected defeat multiplied in the Balladur camp yesterday as the Prime Minister and President Mitterrand presided at the last weekly meeting of the Cabinet before the vote. M Balladur was quoted yesterday by the *Canard Enchaîné* as saying if he won 20 per cent, he would start a political movement. If he received 15 per cent or less, he would write a book.



An Elysée Palace doorman helps Edouard Balladur into his coat after the weekly Cabinet meeting yesterday, while Alain Juppé looks on

## Future is bleak for hapless Pasqua

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

HE WAS touted as the king-maker or even, perhaps, the king. Whatever the outcome of the first round of the French presidential election this Sunday, however, it is clear that Charles Pasqua will emerge from the campaign as one of the losers — at best a courtier, at worst a turncoat.

The tough Gaullist Interior Minister has abandoned all hope of becoming the next head of government even if the candidate he is supporting, Edouard Balladur, the present Prime Minister, wins the race for the presidency. In the more likely event of a victory for his one-time partner, Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of Paris, M Pasqua will need all his political skills to avoid a lengthy, or even permanent, spell in the wilderness.

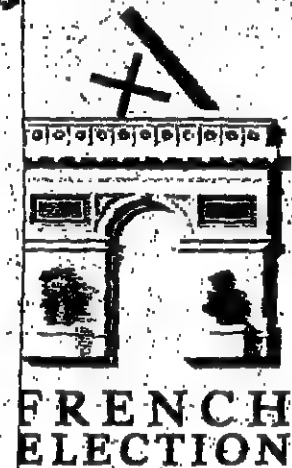
Less than a year ago the Interior Minister was riding on a wave of public support after a wide-ranging review of local government and, more significantly, a series of successes in the fight against terrorism, including the capture of Carlos the Jackal.

When he opted to support M Balladur, he thought he was providing the stamp of Gaullist approval. M Chirac, he said, was unable to unite voters behind him and therefore had no chance of reaching the Elysée.

According to the final opinion polls of the campaign, M Pasqua was wrong on all counts. In the final weeks of the campaign, he has followed the safest tactic of all: attacking Lionel Jospin, the Socialist candidate.



Charles Pasqua: faces spell in the wilderness



FRENCH ELECTION

## Nonchalant French drivers put their faith in Elysée amnesty

BY ADAM SAGE

THESE are joyous times for French motorists. Caught speeding? Pas de problème. No charge for the parking meter? Tant pis! The reason for this lightness of heart lies in one of the more archaic traditions that accompanies France's presidential election: an amnesty offered by the incoming head of state.

A quick walk around the crowded Paris reveals cars stuffed with unpaid parking tickets, most of

them provocatively and prominently placed on dashboards. "I don't bother putting money in the meters now," said Jean-Pierre, 30, an engineer. "The only thing I worry about is not getting the car in a place where it is likely to get towed away. Like everyone else, I am banking on the amnesty."

Questions remain, however. Will the pardon cover all motoring offences as well as fraud on the

buses and trains? Or will it just cover parking fines?

According to Transport Ministry officials, motorists are optimistic although this optimism is not particularly healthy. The number of accidents has risen sharply in the first few months of the year as motorists ignore speed limits on the assumption that they will be forgiven. Similarly, French railways says that travellers are refusing to buy tickets or pay on-the-spot fines, when caught. Instead, they can test the case, hoping to delay it and

therefore benefit from the new President's generosity.

□ If Jacques Chirac wins the election he will be able to thank France's equivalent of *Spitting Image*. That, at least, is the view of a good number of his supporters. French television has two daily satirical programmes, the *Bébé Show* on the TF1 channel and the *Guignols* on Canal Plus, and both appear to have served the Mayor of Paris's cause.

Last year, when Mr Chirac was at his lowest ebb with friends and

voters deserting him en masse, the puppets took to portraying him as beaten and isolated, a victim of his rival, Edouard Balladur.

The *Guignols* was particularly severe, showing him as a man who had undergone a traumatic divorce, alone at home, not knowing how to pass the time, disliking by his own children.

The result? "It made him far more likeable in the eyes of young voters," said Marc-Antoine Villon, 20, a student from Reims in eastern France, and a supporter of Mr

Chirac. "Without a doubt it improved his image."

□ The *Parisien* magazine, *L'Express*, is clearly tired of the election and hoping for a new President as soon as possible. The magazine contains a number of articles on President Mitterrand referring to him in the past tense and clearly intended as obituaries.

Even if President Mitterrand says he wants to leave office as soon as his successor is elected, he is unlikely to be pleased by this exaggerated report of his demise.

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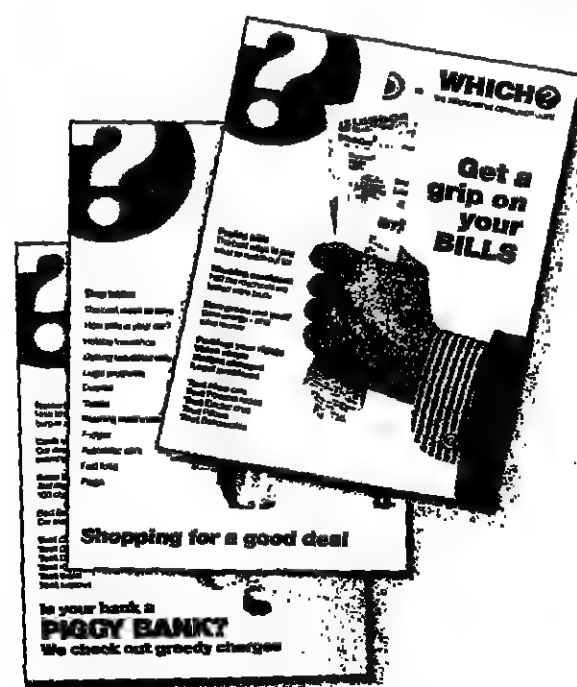
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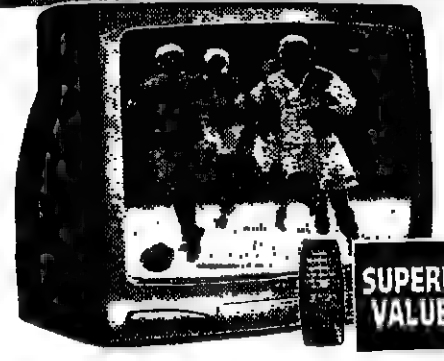
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## Right-wing leader escapes Madrid assassination plot

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

JOSÉ MARIA AZNAR, 43, the leader of Spain's right-wing Popular Party, escaped without serious injury in a car bomb attack in Madrid yesterday that injured 21 people.

A senior Spanish intelligence source said that the attempted assassination had been by Eta, the Basque separatist movement, to show its dwindling following that it is still capable of a big attack. The 90lb bomb was detonated at San as Señor Aznar's vehicle and police escort passed a parked car. A party official said that armour plating saved the politician's life. The force of the blast was so great that shrapnel was embedded in a back door.

A two-storey house opposite the car bomb was demolished. The house owner, a woman of 75, was critically injured, and about 20 others, including four of the police escort, were also hurt. The blast damaged 37 buildings. Fourteen cars were destroyed and the terrorists later blew up their getaway car in northern Madrid. Carlos López Collado, Madrid's councillor for security, said: "It was a direct hit on an armoured car that resisted the impact and therefore Señor Aznar's health is not in any danger. He was superficially hurt but he is well."

Señor Aznar was initially treated in a nearby hospital,

which was also damaged in the blast. He suffered scratches to his face and was later taken to a private clinic for observation. He walked into the clinic unaided.

Señor Aznar's wife, family and colleagues visited him in hospital and Felipe González, the Prime Minister, spoke to him by telephone. Hundreds



Aznar walked unaided to clinic for treatment

of people gathered outside to show their revulsion for terrorism and their support for Señor Aznar.

Juan Alberto Belloch, Minister of Justice and the Interior, said: "It was another yet another attack directed at seriously damaging the democratic system."

In January Gregorio

Ordóñez, 36, a leading PP politician in the Basque region, was shot dead by Eta. He was a councillor in San Sebastián, the Basque resort, and was expected to be elected mayor in municipal elections to be held next month throughout Spain.

After more than 12 years in power, the Socialist Government is assailed by corruption scandals and the PP is forecast to sweep the forthcoming polls but a general election not due until 1997. The minority Government is kept in power by Catalan and Basque nationalist parties in return for regional concessions.

The second attack against the PP within four months by the Basque separatists suggests a sinister new strategy. Señor Aznar has found support in the Basque region for tougher anti-terrorist action and for opposing the Government's policy of releasing convicted Eta killers because they have repented.

Fernando Basnaga, the political wing of Eta, said yesterday that the attack occurred as a result of "the direct responsibility of the strategy of repression, legal or illegal."

In the past 19 years Eta has been responsible for killing 43 people in Madrid alone.

Leading article, page 19



The heavily-armoured car used by José María Aznar, the Spanish right-wing leader, following yesterday's Basque separatist bomb attack in Madrid

## Three British troops injured in minefield

BY JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THREE British soldiers with the United Nations force in the Bosnian "safe area" of Gorazde were wounded yesterday when their foot patrol strayed into a minefield.

The four-man unit from the Royal Welch Fusiliers was patrolling an eastern section of the front line when they entered a known minefield. The first man was injured in the face. Two of his comrades received lower leg injuries after stepping on separate devices as they went to his aid.

Bosnian government troops helped the fourth fusilier to give first aid until a British medical team arrived. Bosnian Serb military authorities were reported to have been particularly co-operative about allowing the evacuation helicopter into Gorazde.

A UN officer in Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, blamed human error for the incident, adding that the seven-week-old Serb fuel blockade had not played a part. The embargo has forced UN troops to abandon their armoured vehicles. "There is an increased risk for the soldiers themselves," said Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Coward, a UN spokesman in Sarajevo. "They are not driving around in armoured protection, and are thus more susceptible to all sorts of mines."

The troops were on patrol from their observation post and would have been on foot even if fuel had been available. Shortly after the incident,

the UN Security Council in New York adopted a French resolution calling for better security measures for peacekeepers serving in Bosnia-Herzegovina and for the resumption of peace talks. The resolution also demanded an extension of the ceasefire, which is due to expire on April 30.

The resolution called on Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, to submit any measures that might prevent attacks on peacekeepers.



ers "on an urgent basis". The resolution was proposed by Paris after two French peacekeepers were killed in Sarajevo last weekend.

Lieutenant-General Rupert Smith, the UN commander in Bosnia, was due to meet a member of the separatist Serb leadership yesterday, to discuss growing harassment. He hoped to receive assurances from the Serbs that the senior UN envoy in the region would be able to fly to Sarajevo airport today.

## Pope shuns 'weeping Madonna'

Rome: The Vatican said yesterday it would not intervene in the dispute over the Madonna of Civitavecchia, which is reported to weep tears of blood.

Father Carlo Benedettini said: "It is a local matter which concerns the diocese of Civitavecchia and does not concern the Holy See." Despite widespread coverage elsewhere, *Osservatore Romano*, the Vatican daily newspaper, and *Vatican Radio*, have ignored the issue.

The Civitavecchia state prosecutor lifted the order impounding the statue on Tuesday, but religious authorities gave no indication of when the statue would be put on display again.

It was impounded last week while authorities tried to verify where the "tears" were coming from. Its owner, Fabio Gregori, an electrician, is under investigation to establish if he had any part in the phenomenon. (AFP)

## Russians lose grip on Chechen town

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN MOSCOW

WITHIN hours of capturing the Chechen lowland stronghold of Bamut, Russian troops were forced to retreat because of heavy shelling from 1,000 Chechen fighters on surrounding hills. Interfax news agency reported yesterday.

Colonel-General Mikhail Yegorov, acting commander of the Russian forces in Chechnya, said his men were forced to leave the village. Interfax reported that Russian troops had been throwing explosives into nuclear-proof bunkers in Bamut, where up to 800 Chechen fighters were sheltering.

Chechen forces were said to be regrouping in the west of the republic, and some 7,000 rebels are still active in the northern region. The rest of the outnumbered force is heading for the Caucasus mountains to continue a guerrilla war. General Anatoli Kutikov, head of the joint army and interior forces in

Chechnya, said 400 Chechens had been killed in the battle for Bamut, and 14 Russian servicemen had died. He said more than 1,500 Russian servicemen and up to 9,500 Chechens had been killed in four months of fighting. A further 300 Russians are missing. Russia's human rights commission has put civilian casualties at over 24,000.

General Dzhokar Dudayev, the Chechen leader, was reported by a deputy in the Ukrainian parliament to have fled to Ukraine.

There is growing concern in Moscow at the fate of an American and five Russian aid workers who have been missing for nine days in Chechnya. Frederick Cuny was working for the New York-based Soros Foundation. Washington: President Clinton informed Moscow that despite threats, it would not be allowed to veto Nato's eastward expansion.

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## Mystery 'man in black' blamed for Yokohama commuter nightmare

## Japanese choked by fumes in new attack on subway

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S worst fears were realised yesterday as toxic fumes spread through a passage in a crowded subway station in Yokohama, just south of Tokyo, and through a train that had just left the station. More than 300 people were taken to hospital, 20 of them seriously ill.

Investigators last night identified the substance as an irritant containing phosgene — a very poisonous, colourless, heavy gas that was used in the First World War. Some victims of the attack are suffering from reduced oxygen levels in the blood, while others have liver damage. Most, though, have complained only of sore throats and stinging eyes.

Several witnesses in Yokohama reported inhaling the fumes in the station after they saw a young man — dressed in black and carrying a suitcase — walk through the passage at about 1pm. Investigators found a number of vinyl bags which contained a chemical liquid near one of the station's exits, but they said last night that the contents were still being analysed.

Police have ruled out a link between phosgene and the lethal sarin nerve gas that killed 12 people and injured more than 5,500 in last month's attacks on Tokyo's subway system.

All the media reports have, however, named Aum Shinrikyo, the religious cult suspected of carrying out the Tokyo attacks, as the prime

suspect in yesterday's incident. There were reports last night that Shoko Asahara, the cult leader, had mentioned phosgene to his followers in a paper published before the March 20 Tokyo attacks.

A spokesman for the cult last night denied any involvement in the Yokohama and Tokyo attacks. "Amid all these false accusations against Aum, I can only say I hope police catch the real criminal behind this incident as quickly

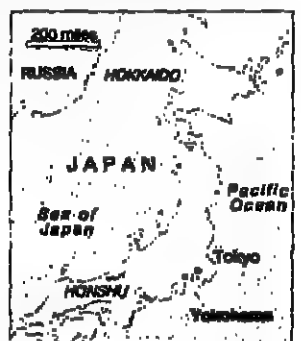
as possible," Yoshinobu Aoyama, the cult's lawyer, said. Police announced yesterday that they had arrested Aum Shinrikyo's deputy leader, Kiyohide Hayakawa, 45, after he appeared in a live television interview filmed at the sect's headquarters in a village at the foot of Mount Fuji. He was arrested on charges relating to a break-in at a garage where a car was found containing materials used for making guns.

The response by police, military and fire authorities to the Yokohama attack and the panic among commuters around the train station, heightened the anxieties that have pervaded Tokyo since the last month's attacks. Live television coverage by every national network in Japan showed hundreds of investigators and medical personnel — many carrying gas masks — converging on Yokohama station in military vehicles, fire engines, ambulances and police cars within 20 minutes of the first reports.

The attack followed a full security alert in Tokyo last weekend following a prophecy by Mr Asahara that "something horrible" would happen.

Police guards and security measures were boosted even further in train stations and most public places in Tokyo and Yokohama last night. Commuters said they were feeling extremely nervous about using trains during rush hour, but felt they had little choice.

Parliament yesterday unanimously adopted a law outlawing sarin and penalising its use with measures including life sentences. The new law also provides for up to ten years in prison for anyone convicted of producing or possessing sarin or similar nerve gases for criminal purposes. Possession can be punished with up to a year in prison. Anyone who hands in the gas before the law becomes effective on May 1 will escape punishment.



Women commuters cover their mouths after inhaling gas fumes at the subway station in Yokohama yesterday. More than 300 people were taken to hospital

## Poison gas first used in trenches

BY NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

PHOSGENE is a colourless, poisonous gas with a penetrating smell reminiscent of musty hay. Chemically, it is carbonyl chloride, formed by combining carbon monoxide and chlorine in the presence of a catalyst. It was first synthesised in 1811.

During the First World War, phosgene was one of many poison gases used by both the Germans and the Allies, either released from a cylinder with chlorine so that the wind blew it across enemy lines, or in the form of gas shells. It made its first appearance in 1915.

The gas is an acute respiratory irritant with delayed effects. Many in the trenches did not realise until days afterwards that they had been gassed. Inhalation causes severe lung injuries and can kill, although its use in the trenches was designed to incapacitate rather than to kill.

By the end of the war more than 100,000 tonnes of the irritant agents, including phosgene, had been used. Widespread revulsion led to the 1925 Geneva accords, banning chemical weapons.

Gaseous phosgene has a density about 3½ times that of air, and liquefies at 82°C, making it easy to store in cylinders under pressure. Production of phosgene is much simpler than the nerve gas sarin, which was used in the attacks on the Tokyo subway last month. It has legitimate uses as an intermediate in the manufacture of organic chemicals, including dyes and resins.

## Turks foil plot to kill Prime Minister

Istanbul: Turkish police say they detained 21 people in Istanbul yesterday suspected of belonging to a far-left group that planned to assassinate Tansu Ciller, the Prime Minister.

The Istanbul anti-terrorist branch seized a pistol and a hand-drawn map of an area in the city where Mrs Ciller has a mansion. The Australian news agency said the suspects, eight of them women, were members of the outlawed Revolutionary People's Liberation Party — Front — and were planning to kill Mrs Ciller at her home in Istanbul. Mrs Ciller is on a week-long visit to the United States. (Reuters)

## Gore warns of nuclear threat

New York: Al Gore, the American Vice-President, said the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty should be extended indefinitely because nuclear weapons technology was becoming "increasingly available". In Australia, a report by the International Institute for Strategic Studies said that China will have a strategic nuclear arsenal able to strike anywhere in Asia, western Russia and the American East Coast by 2010.

## Militants shot

Tunis: Security forces have shot dead 91 allegedly armed Muslim militants during search operations across Algeria over the past ten days, according to an official statement. (Reuters)

## Mecca go-ahead

New York: Despite sanctions, the UN Security Council has authorised Egypt, Air to fly 6,000 pilgrims, aboard 48 flights from Libya to Saudi Arabia for the annual pilgrimage to Mecca. (Reuters)

## Bolivian purge

La Paz: Bolivia has arrested scores of trade union leaders and declared a state of siege, which includes the right to hold people without trial, to quell civil unrest after three weeks of protests. (Reuters)

## Boys arrested

Lisbon: Two brothers of six and 11 have been arrested suspected of strangling their six-year-old cousin near the city of Oporto, judicial officials said. The law bars the trial of children under 16. (AFP)

## Brando funeral

Los Angeles: Cheyenne Brando, who committed suicide, was buried in Tahiti next to her lover, Dag Drollet, killed by her half-brother in 1990. Her father, Marlon, 71, did not attend the funeral.

## Buseck resigns

Vienna: Erhard Buseck, the Austrian Vice-Chancellor for the past four years, is resigning from the Government, a day after the conservative People's Party ditched him as its leader. (Reuters)

## Police sting

Manila: A policeman dressed as a bumble bee joined entertainers at a children's birthday party in a Manila fast-food restaurant to arrest a father who had been hunted for a year accused of rape. (AFP)

## Scientists create new conductor

BY NIGEL HAWKES

AMERICAN scientists have created powerful new superconductors able to carry large currents at manageable temperatures.

The three-layered conductors, which combine metals and ceramics, are flexible, have zero electrical resistance at the temperature of liquid nitrogen, and can carry a current of a million amperes per square centimetre, a team from Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico reported yesterday.

"We have hit a new milestone in superconductivity, and I think we're on our way to a product that has great commercial value," said Dean Peterson, head of the laboratory's Superconductivity Technology Centre.

Superconductors that work at the temperature of liquid nitrogen (minus 196°C) have been produced before, but the new material can carry nearly 100 times the current density. To be useful in electrical machines, superconductors need to be able to handle large currents.

The team reported that the tape has been bent and flexed repeatedly without showing any cracks. "Since lengths of the tape can be tightly wound many times and can carry so much current, it is possible to make very powerful, very tiny magnets," said Dr Xin Di Wu, a team member.

## President's plea to America Clinton insists he is relevant

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

INSISTING that he is still "relevant", President Clinton used a rare prime-time news conference to try to put himself back in a political debate monopolised by the Republicans since they took control of Congress last November.

"The constitution gives me relevance. The power of our ideas gives me relevance. The record we have built up over the last two years and the things we are trying to do gives me relevance... The President is relevant," he said during the 40-minute conference on Tuesday night.

The mere fact of a President having to use such words was a sign of how much power has moved from the White House to Capitol Hill. "It was pretty extraordinary to have the man who holds the most powerful office in the world talking about the fact that he was relevant," said Phil Gramm.



Mr Clinton addressing his news conference

## White House faced with race dilemma

Washington: President Clinton expressed sympathy for America's angry white male yesterday as pressure mounted for him to take a stand on the emotionally-charged issue of race-based affirmative action (Tom Rhodes writes).

Affirmative action — federal programmes which offer preferential treatment to minorities — is fast becoming a headache for Mr Clinton after white men effectively won two Supreme Court

the Texas senator and Republican presidential candidate.

Mr Clinton's protestations were further undermined by the refusal of three of the four main television networks to disrupt their scheduled sitcoms to broadcast the conference.

Specifically, Mr Clinton sought to regain ground on the popular issue of welfare reform by challenging Congress to produce legislation that he can sign by July 4, Independence Day. He said that the Bill the House approved last month was unacceptable because it would provide too little job training for those who would lose their welfare benefits.

He promised to "go to the mat" for Henry Foster, his embattled nominee for the post of Surgeon-General, whose Senate confirmation hearings begin next month. White House officials privately concede that the nomination is likely to be rejected because top Republicans seeking their party's presidential nomination feel compelled to oppose a

man who has performed abortions.

Mr Clinton, who formally opened his re-election headquarters in Washington last week, distanced several themes from his 1992 campaign. These included the need for Americans to assume greater personal responsibility and his desire to find a new middle way in the Left-Right debate.

He deserved re-election, he argued, because "we are moving the country in the right direction... we are getting results. This country is in a stronger position today than it was two years ago."

Candidate declared: Richard Lugar, 63, a Rhodes scholar, former Indiana senator and foreign affairs adviser to three Presidents. Yesterday became the eighth Republican formally to declare his presidential candidacy.

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## Tokyo threat to quit trade talks

BY GWEN ROBINSON AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

JAPAN said yesterday it would break off trade talks with America if Washington carried out a threat to impose sanctions on its imports.

Trade officials returning to Tokyo from two days of fruitless talks in Washington threatened to discontinue negotiations over foreign access to Japan's domestic car and parts market rather than "submit to US threats".

US officials refused to say whether the absence of a breakthrough meant that the United States was closer to carrying out its threat to impose stiff tariffs on Japanese products.

Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, has threatened sanctions if Japan fails to open its domestic market to more foreign imports.

President Clinton, referring to the dispute during a news conference on Tuesday, said strong differences remained, despite progress in resolving other trade issues. "We should not be at risk of a trade war," he said. "But I would remind you that we have been very patient as a country for a very long time."

Economists said the rise in the yen's value and the dollar's slide could increase pressure on Japan to open its markets to more foreign products and help to reduce its huge trade surplus. But analysts said they

doubted that Tokyo was about to expose Japan's vehicle industry to more competition. Japanese officials said they were disappointed by the lack of progress, but promised to continue talks at a lower level.

"We remain optimistic that



Kantor: threatened US trade sanctions

an agreement with the US on auto issues is possible in the near future, provided the US side doesn't insist on a de facto numerical target," the Japanese said in a statement. America is threatening tariffs against more than \$1 billion (£625 million) in Japanese imports if there is no progress in the talks.

William Rees-Mogg, page 18  
Currencies sink, page 25  
G7 pressure, page 26

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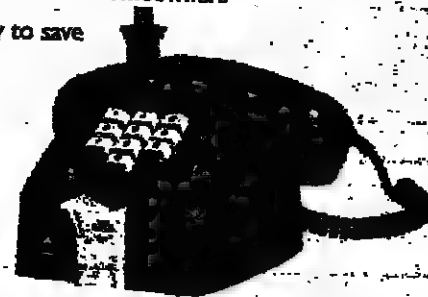
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## Sri Lanka peace hopes in tatters

## Tamil attack on navy leaves 11 sailors dead

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS, SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT, AND VITTEA YAPA IN COLOMBO

TAMIL TIGERS yesterday blew up two naval boats in Sri Lanka's eastern port of Trincomalee and announced their withdrawal from peace negotiations. The attack was a humiliating blow to the newly-elected Government, which offered unprecedented concessions to entice the rebels into a settlement of the country's 12-year civil war, in which more than 30,000 people have died.

In reply, the Government announced that it would reimpose an economic embargo on the Tigers' northern stronghold in the Jaffna peninsula and again ban fishing off the northern coast. The 14-week ceasefire ended with classic tactics by the Tigers, who struck while the Government's guard was down. Security forces were put on full alert throughout the country last night.

Previous ceasefires have been exploited by the Tigers to regroup, and this truce has been no different. At least 11 sailors were killed and 23 injured in the attack, which came two hours after the Government was told formally that the rebels were abandoning the peace talks.

The bodies of four Tigers, including a woman, were recovered, suggesting that it may have been a suicide attack. The rebels have a special unit for attacking naval targets, the Sea Tigers, which includes a suicide squad called the Black Sea Tigers.

President Bandaranaike Kumaratunga came to power last year on a pledge to negotiate peace with the Tigers, who are demanding an independent homeland in the north and east of the island. The rebels are trapped inside their heavily fortified stronghold, where they have established a de facto homeland with a separate court system, police force and tax collection procedures. The armed forces could doubtless capture it, but at enormous human cost.

The Government made repeated concessions to appease the Tigers, while the rebels offered almost nothing in return. Mrs Kumaratunga has been accused by opponents of being naive. Her biggest gesture, made last week, was to allow fuel to be delivered to Jaffna: this will now be halted. A range of other previously banned goods that were delivered to the region will be

stopped again. The respite, however, has raised the Tamils' morale and brought a welcome break from the privations of life in a war zone.

Vellupillai Prabhakaran, the leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, announced on the rebel radio station that he was pulling out of the peace talks. Earlier, he said all his demands must be met by yesterday. The last round of peace talks, the fourth, were held in Jaffna a week ago. Throughout the ceasefire, which began in January, the rebels held out the possibility of softening their demand for a homeland and settling for a federal arrangement, which turned out to be merely a ploy to buy time and concessions.

Weapons and ammunition are smuggled into Jaffna by small, fast boats that can avoid navy patrol vessels at night. The navy is reluctant to give chase for fear of being lead into a trap. Jaffna, which is unable to feed itself, is kept alive by daily deliveries of food by ship under the supervision of the International Committee of the Red Cross.



Michael Jackson and his wife, Lisa Marie Presley-Jackson, at his Neverland ranch in California, where they greeted children from all over the world who are preparing to celebrate the UN's fiftieth anniversary

## Mrs Mandela to leave hospital

FROM MICHAEL HAMILYN IN JOHANNESBURG

WINNIE MANDELA spent yesterday undergoing a series of medical examinations and resting quietly at a Johannesburg clinic. "She's fine," said a clinic official. "She should be out of here by the end of the week."

While Mrs Mandela was admitted to Linksfield Park Clinic, suffering from stress, members of the African National Congress high command were beginning to take action against her. The estranged wife of the South African President was twice sacked by her husband as Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, but resigned before the second sacking could take effect.

The ANC organisation has backed the President at each turn, although its statements have invariably said that dealing with Mrs Mandela was a problem for the Government, not the party. Now next week's meeting of the ANC's national executive is expected to turn its attention to the mounting problem of party indiscipline.

mentarians to behave as if they are above the party".

There is anger about the embarrassment caused by Mrs Mandela's legal action against the President, challenging her original dismissal. Members have also been irritated by her enlisting support from Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, the Inkatha leader.

There is no love lost between the party hierarchy and Mrs Mandela. Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC Secretary-General, has never been forgiven for his part in ousting her from the ANC's Social Welfare Department in 1992, nor indeed for his part in drafting the anti-apartheid movement's statement against her in 1989.

Mrs Mandela and her supporters have campaigned against Mr Ramaphosa by backing Thabo Mbeki, the First Deputy President, in the struggle to be the President's heir apparent.

If Mrs Mandela loses her party membership she will automatically lose her position as an MP. MPs are not elected but appointed by the party.

## Mitchell novella found in shoebox

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

AN UNPUBLISHED novella by Margaret Mitchell, written two decades before the publication of *Gone With the Wind*, has been discovered in a shoebox belonging to one of the writer's former suitors.

The 107-page manuscript, entitled *Lost Lovers*, is a lush romantic novel set in the South Pacific and written in 1916, when Mitchell was 16.

Mitchell did not write another novel after *Gone With the Wind* was published in 1936 and became an international bestseller. Determined to protect her privacy, Mitchell, who died in 1949, left instructions that all her private papers should be destroyed after her death.

The hitherto unknown novella was apparently preserved by the author to Henry Love Angel, an amateur photographer born in the same year as Mitchell and one of her youthful admirers. Mr Angel kept the manuscript in an attic, along with photographs of Mitchell in her twenties and other documents. The

cache of papers and photographs was presented to The Road to Tara Museum in Atlanta by Mr Angel's son, Henry Love Angel Jr, where it is now on display. Excerpts will appear in the American magazine *Art & Antiques* next month.

"There's no question that it's authentic," Faisy Wiggin, president of The Road to Tara Museum, said.



Mitchell ordered her papers to be burnt

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Some simple ways to avoid E coli □ Skin rashes and the menstrual cycle □ The role of agitation in dementia



THE dish on which the joint of beef was carved in my childhood was laced with a system of gutters so that the blood and tissue fluids from the under-done meat collected in a hollow at one end of it. It was laded from this hollow on to the children's plates as a tonic essential for our growth and welfare.

The beef had been raised, slaughtered and then hung by Mr Duffield, a village character who was both grazier and butcher. Mr Duffield's bullocks had spent the summer on the marshes before being fattened in his own cattle yards, intensive rearing hadn't compromised their health. The under-done meat was safe. The juices from the joint boosted our iron levels, provided essential proteins, vitamins and minerals, and nobody needed to worry about E coli O157.

Outbreaks of E coli O157 have again been in the news. Since 1982, when it was first isolated, it has been an occasional unwelcome guest whenever under-done beef is served.

## How to enjoy eating beef

This particular strain usually grows in the guts of cattle. When it infects humans it causes a very severe form of food poisoning which can be fatal in young children, the infirm, elderly or immunocompromised. Fortunately, it is comparatively rare, with an incidence of 500 to 600 cases annually. The number doubled between 1990 and 1992 but actually dropped in 1993 to 390; figures for 1994 are not yet available.

The toxins from E coli O157 cause severe diarrhoea, sometimes with bleeding, and vomiting. Other problems result from circulatory failure and the severe drop in blood pressure which follows this; also, as in other overwhelming bacterial infections, there may be haemolysis of the blood cells in which the patient's own blood breaks down thereby further compromising kidney function. Renal dialysis with an artificial kidney may be necessary.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttard

E coli O157 is only one strain of a huge family of organisms which live in human and animal guts. Most E coli are not disease-spreading pathogens but non-pathogenic bacteria

which live in the gut and contribute to digestion.

Each country, even the districts within it, has its own strain of E coli. When a traveller visits a faraway place in very little time they are usually infected with the local strain of E coli. As newcomers to the flora of a holidaymaker's guts, the bacteria can cause an immediate, but usually mild, tummy upset.

This gastroenteritis — known euphemistically as Montezuma's revenge or Delhi Belly — is nothing to do with changes in the composition of the local water, or tiredness from the journey, but the result of dirty hands or poorly washed cooking utensils. After a few days in a new country, the guts adapt to the foreign strains of E coli and the holiday can be enjoyed without resort to Lomotil.

E coli O157 is not yet, and it is hoped never will be, so prevalent as to cause anxiety to those who enjoy eating beef. It is wise, however, to have beef and indeed all meats very well cooked, which would in any case be welcomed by those who when children didn't like their potatoes dyed red, however health-giving the beef "juice".

## Skin deep



WOMEN often complain that their rashes, or itches, are at their worst just before a period. Recently I saw a patient who told me that some times at the end of her HRT cycle she developed formication, the sensation of ants crawling on the skin, all over her head. Once bleeding started the formication disappeared only to reappear at the end of another packet of pills.

Monitor magazine has reviewed research published in America by dermatologists in Ohio. The doctors studied the influence of the hormonal balance on women who had long-standing skin troubles, including eczema and urticaria.

Dermatologists have known for more than 30 years that some women are sensitive to progesterone and this sensitivity may in some cases cause skin rashes. The Ohio team has shown that in some cases this sensitivity is related to the oestrogen levels

rather than the progesterone. In seven cases they found that although patients' long-standing skin conditions became worse before their period, the progesterone was not responsible. However, skin testing with intradermal oestrogen confirmed their suspicion that the patients' marked sensitivity was due to this hormone. Once intermittent Tamoxifen was used to suppress oestrogen, the monthly exacerbation of the skin trouble stopped.

## Mind battle



CORPORAL Jones of Dad's Army was a veteran of the First World War and scores of minor colonial battles, but his temperament

belied his background and rows of medals. Despite his cries of "Don't panic, don't panic," he did panic at the first hint of trouble. A recent edition of the *Journal of Gerontology* carries unhappy news for those like Corporal Jones. His behaviour illustrates one im-

portant risk factor for the development of Alzheimer's disease. Agitation was also found to be related to an increased rate of decline in intellectual function once the dementia had become established.

It has long been recognised that a good education — presumably because of the encouragement it gives to people to continue to learn and to take an interest in their surroundings — is associated with a reduced risk of suffering Alzheimer's, people who remain mentally active are less prone to this form of dementia and this advantage has recently been confirmed by Dutch research published in the *British Medical Journal*. Conversely, the survey published in the *Journal of Gerontology* found that when patients with a higher education developed Alzheimer's, its progress was apt to be more marked.

The possibility that agitation is an adverse prognostic symptom in the development of Alzheimer's suggests that it might be good medical practice to treat these symptoms vigorously when it is first seen that they are complicating the dementia; thereby the rate of decline might be slowed.

# The scourge of the slums rises again

The developed world thought it had defeated TB, but the infection is increasing among the homeless and the urban poor. Dr Trisha Greenhalgh investigates

Tuberculosis (TB), which killed one person in seven in 19th-century Britain, is once again in the news. The finding by the housing charity Crisis that 2 per cent of London's homeless people have active TB of the lung was published this week just as the ink was drying on the World Health Organisation's 1995 update on what it has officially termed the Global TB Emergency.

One new case of TB occurs somewhere every second, and the number of people infected worldwide is approaching two billion. The epidemic is blamed on a combination of disorganised and impoverished health-care systems in developing countries, increasing urban poverty, the spread of AIDS and inadequate or incorrect treatment regimes.

The organism that causes TB, the tubercle bacillus, is passed on by saliva ("droplet infection"), usually through coughing. It is so tenacious that even with modern anti-TB drugs a standard course of treatment takes six months

and the disease can recur many years after apparent cure. People who refuse treatment, or who abandon it after the first few weeks, may pose an important health hazard to their community, although not everyone who suffers from TB will pass it on to others. Tuberculosis of the lung spreads rapidly, particularly if the sufferer has a loose cough, whereas rarer forms affecting the bones, skin, gut, kidneys or reproductive organs are much less contagious.

Susceptibility to TB is higher in infants, the elderly, smokers and those who are undernourished, debilitated from a recent illness, or suffering from a chronic condition such as diabetes or AIDS. Droplet infection spreads quickly in institutions, including hospitals and nursing homes. The risk of spread is proportional to the level of overcrowding and to the amount of time which the individuals spend indoors. Nelson Mandela's lungs bear the scars of TB caught during his stay in an overcrowded prison.

Even though effective anti-TB drugs were not developed until the 1930s, and a free vaccine was not introduced until 1948, mortality from TB in the UK has been falling steadily since records began in 1838 (see table). This illustrates the importance of housing, sanitation and nutrition in the fight against the disease. The building of sanatoriums to which sufferers could be sent (thereby breaking the chain of infection), and pasteurisation of milk, introduced gradually after about 1890, also helped bring the disease under control. Recently, however, trends have been reversed and TB notifications in England and Wales have shown a small but definite increase every year between 1988 and 1992 (the latest year for which statistics are available).

A paper in last week's *British Medical Journal* confirms that the 12 per cent increase in TB notifications between 1988 and 1992 in Hackney, east London, was explained almost entirely by a 35 per cent increase in the disease in the poorest tenth of the population; the richest three-quarters showed no increase at all. Cases in recently arrived immigrants and refugees accounted for less than half of the observed increase, and although some new cases occurred in the "high-risk" Indian and Pakistani communities, just as high an increase occurred in traditionally low-risk whites and Afro-Caribbeans.

Another paper in the same journal suggests that being unemployed (or living with someone who is unemployed) can be a risk factor for the development of TB. Changes in the unemployment rate between 1982 and 1991 were found to account for 23 per cent of the variability between TB notifications in different London boroughs. Being unemployed lowers the family's income, but it also increases the amount of time a person spends about the house coughing or being coughed upon.

These findings have obvious

political implications, but the figures should be interpreted carefully. The term "TB notifications" is not synonymous with "TB cases". A notifiable disease is one for which doctors are legally required to report every new case they see to a central surveillance centre so that new epidemics can be detected easily.

Other notifiable diseases include meningitis, measles, and salmonella food poisoning. The procedure for notifying a disease involves filling out a fairly lengthy form, for which the doctor is paid a small fee (£1.50). It is estimated that doctors tend to notify up to 40 per cent of all new TB cases. A rise in TB notifications, therefore, might reflect a true rise in incidence, an increase in doctors' commitment to their form-filling duties, or a combination of both. Yet another paper in this week's *BMJ* shows that a higher proportion of TB cases was notified in 1992 than in previous years, but that this only partially explains the rising incidence.

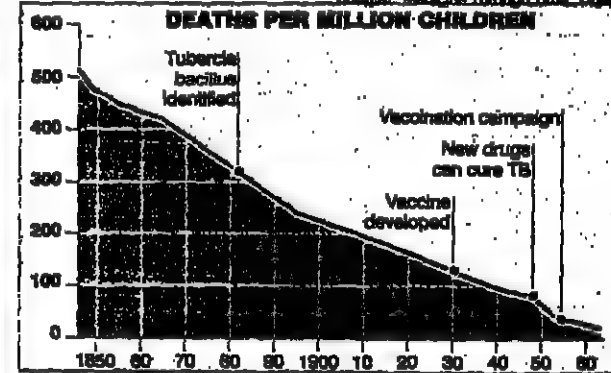
Not only the experience from working in TB clinics in inner London is that most "treatment failures" occur when



An X-ray of the chest area of a TB patient — the right lung (left) is more heavily infected than the left

patients do not understand the nature of their illness or the need for a prolonged course of tablets (perhaps because there are language difficulties, no one in the clinic speaks their language and a young child is interpreter), and also when the patient is homeless (would you remember your clinic appointment without a Flofax or a calendar on the kitchen wall)? Patients such as these who abandon treatment help to promote the growth of organisms resistant to anti-TB drugs.

The incidence of TB in New York City is now falling dramatically after a programme



of "directly observed treatment" — short course" or Dots, in which members of staff at TB clinics become named key workers for particular patients and visit them in the community to supervise every dose of tablets. Dots programmes in China and Tanzania have led to 90 per cent cure rates, controlling the spread of the disease at a fraction of the cost of more widespread, but less effective, initiatives such as routine hospitalisation of patients or upgrading the ventilation systems in public places. Without Dots, or a similar programme, drug-resistant, incurable TB might soon be added to the long list of potential health hazards in Britain's cardboard cities.

Case finding and chemotherapy are the cornerstone of tuberculosis control. At one time, all British schoolchildren were checked for immunity to TB and immunised if necessary. This programme was abandoned because it makes it difficult to diagnose infection in later life, and any vaccination programme ceases to be cost-effective when the prevalence of the disease is low. Now the programme is restricted to certain boroughs, mainly in inner cities where the risk is highest. However, given the latest figures on TB, perhaps it is time for the Government to reconsider its policy on mass vaccination.

Dr Trisha Greenhalgh is a GP in north London.

Nigel Hawkes reports on how stress added to the death toll among Israeli civilians during the Gulf War

## Did Saddam make his enemies die of fright?

Civilian death rates soared on the first day Israeli cities were hit by missiles during the Gulf War, as stress took its toll on worried citizens. On the day of the first missile attack, January 18, 1991, at least 50 more people than expected died,

mostly of heart attacks, a study published yesterday in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* reports. A total of 147 people died, against the expected number of 95.

On each of the subsequent 16 days of missile attacks, Israeli death rates outside hospitals went up by 10 per cent. These figures are in addition to any killed directly by the missiles, and represent civilian deaths caused by the stress of the bombardment, or the efforts made to protect against it.

Dr Jeremy Kark and colleagues from the Hadassah Medical Organisation report in *JAMA* that evidence over the past 20 years supports the idea that psychological stress



Israelis were told to expect gas attacks and were given masks

can precipitate sudden death. "The imminent deadline for the 1991 Gulf War and subsequently the TB missile attacks by Iraq on Israel represented unusual, short-term, life-

threatening stress for an entire nation," they write. Israeli citizens had been warned to expect gas attacks, issued with gas masks and automatic syringes containing

atropine, and told to prepare a sealed room in their houses. Some undoubtedly died through misuse of the gas masks, while others with respiratory diseases may have suffered from oxygen shortage in the sealed rooms.

Women were far more likely to die than men. The fact that the death rate was especially high on the first day may imply the existence of a small, highly susceptible group vulnerable to the stress of a life-threatening situation.

The study is a classic example of a "found experiment". Dr David Phillips, a University of California sociologist, writes in an editorial in *JAMA*. This is an experiment created by events beyond the researchers' control, when an

independent variable — the missile attacks — can be linked to a dependent variable, in this case increased civilian death rates. He writes that such experiments are well suited to establishing statistical links, but less effective at establishing causes.

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# America's taste of true terror

Ben Macintyre on reverberations from the Oklahoma explosion

In Europe we have become grimly inured to the horrible realities of terrorism, but in America a blast like the one which ripped through the middle of downtown Oklahoma City yesterday carries with it psychological reverberations for which the American public is almost wholly unprepared. America has had no terrorist threat to compare with the IRA, the Baader-Meinhof gang or Eta, and since its founding the country has rested on the comfortable belief that it is all but invulnerable to terrorist attacks on innocent civilians on its home territory. Disgraced post office workers might even be in crowded shopping malls from time to time, but terrorist mass murder was a largely foreign concept — the sort of thing that happened in Europe or the Third World, where ancient animosities run deep, but not in America — and certainly not in Oklahoma.

Whoever planned yesterday's bomb, if such it turns out to be, could hardly have chosen a more apt and chilling way to explode that myth. Oklahoma City, perhaps the quintessential quiet Midwestern town, is about as far across the American landscape as one can get from the brutalities of terrorism and the complexities of political violence.

An "Oldie", a term part-affectionate, part-detractor, is the classic corn-ball midwesterner, a simple fellow who minds his own business and wants no trouble. The message implicit in yesterday's explosion is a stark one, that has left America reeling: if Oklahoma City can be attacked, then nowhere is safe.

Yesterday's blast is the third event in less than three years to punch a hole in America's assumptions about its own security from domestic terrorist violence on a European scale.

The first was the bombing of the World Trade Centre in February 1993, the worst terrorist attack on American soil until that date, in which six people died and thousands were injured. Here was terrorism writ large and in blood, an attempt to knock out key landmarks and cause slaughter on a huge scale, yet in the aftermath of the Trade Centre bombing the alleged Muslim terrorists were portrayed as bungling incompetents, a group of overzealous and underprepared radicals who were rounded up within days.

America breathed more easily, having become convinced that this was an isolated incident rather than the harbinger of a new terrorist era. The trial of the men accused of carrying out the attack continues in New York, but usually relegated to back-page news and largely forgotten.

Soon after the attack on the World Trade Centre came Waco, an event if anything more stunning in its raw violence and naked rebellion. For 51 days the country watched in disbelief as the Branch Davidian compound was besieged by government forces, and then saw the building and its inhabitants choose

self-immolation rather than surrender as the FBI moved in with gas-propelling tanks. Again America sought, and in many instances found, psychological comfort in the belief that Waco was an aberration. Yet it wrought a subtle and profound change in America's self-perception. Many who found the bizarre views of David Koresh repugnant nonetheless argued that the federal forces had behaved with reckless abandon in deciding to launch a military attack on the Waco compound.

In the subsequent investigation, fingers were pointed at federal officials and heads rolled, while on the more extreme fringes of American society Waco came to symbolise what happens when an overweening government takes up arms against its own citizens.

Throughout America, but concentrated in parts of Montana and Idaho, citizen militias have begun to spring up determined to protect, and if necessary fight for, the right to bear arms and defend themselves against government intrusion. Most of these groups are paranoid to an almost ludicrous degree, but almost without exception they regard the Waco siege and its tragic denouement as the prime example of an aggressive federal power attempting to curtail constitutional rights. To the more extreme, Koresh was a martyr merely exercising his dual rights to practice his own religion and collect guns.

Most US citizens, even those wholly wedded to their weaponry, would not consider taking up arms to defend their right to own them, but with the passage of the Brady Bill and other efforts to impose gun control the groundswell against interference is growing perceptibly.

In some political circles the Waco disaster, and its inept handling by the federal Government, served only to reinforce fears that the influence of Washington has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished.

Few would disagree that the Waco debacle was an event of domestic terrorism, but whether the terrorists were inside the cult compound or outside it remains an issue of continuing and bitter debate.

Whether yesterday's incident reflects an upsurge of violence by disgruntled Americans or the work of external, politically motivated forces, terrorism in the US has passed a new and dismaying milestone.

The World Trade Centre bombing shook America's self-confidence approach to terrorism: the Waco catastrophe undermined it further and with yesterday's explosion at the Alfred Murrah Building, it may have finally evaporated.

As the authorities searched the rubble for bodies and clues yesterday, America, belatedly but in earnest, joined the roster of nations who have felt the scourge of terrorist fanaticism.



## Saving grace of the yen

The currency crisis can be traced to the flourishing economies of the East

Some people are saying that there is a dollar crisis; some people are saying that there is a yen crisis; the truth is that there is a world currency crisis, from which no country is exempt. The dollar-yen rate is a good measure of the scale of what is happening. Yesterday the yen briefly broke through its record level of 80 to the dollar; it did not quite hold that rate, but the next surge could well carry the yen beyond it. Yet this is an unbalanced rate in terms of domestic costs. Calculations of purchasing power parity suggest that the dollar has the domestic purchasing power of about 200 yen.

Why has the yen risen so far against the dollar? It is not speculation. For the past year the main finance houses in the market have thought that the yen was too high and the dollar was too low. George Soros himself lost money by speculating on the recovery of the dollar; the great Barings speculation which went so disastrously wrong was a bet that the Nikkei Dow Jones index would rise, which could happen only if the yen weakened against the dollar and took pressure off Japanese profits. For the past year the speculators have been losing money by backing a rise in the dollar; they are now out of the market because of their losses, though most of them still think that they are right about the fundamentals. Central bank intervention has been on the same side: whenever Japan has intervened it has been to sell yen and buy dollars.

Both speculation and intervention have been overwhelmed by the ordinary forces of the market, by the Japanese trade surplus and by the capital demand to buy yen and sell dollars. The ordinary Japanese trade surplus runs at about \$10 billion (\$6.2 billion) a month, which has to be converted through the market into dollars before any other intervention can have any impact.

Japan's trade surplus does arise partly from limitations on the access of imported goods to the Japanese domestic market. Import penetration in Japan is estimated to amount only to 4.5 per cent. The trade talks between the United States and Japan are going badly. Yet the Japanese surplus owes much more to the high level of Japanese savings.

Japanese private and public consumption accounts for only 64.4 per cent of gross domestic product, compared with figures of 71.9 per cent for Germany, 86.8 per cent for the United Kingdom, and 87.4 per cent for the United States. The Japanese surplus available for investment and net exports is therefore nearly three times the American. Any change in the yen, therefore, makes little difference to such disproportionate figures. The Americans and the British can refuse ruefully that "the fault, dear Brutus, lies not in our stars" but in our low savings rates "that we are underlings".

These high savings rates are not found only in Japan, but are characteristic of the emerging Asian economies as well. In particular, the Hong Kong figures are spectacular even by Japanese standards, with private and public consumption of only 38.6 per cent of GDP. Singapore is 52.8, and South Korea is 64.7. China itself has an even better figure than Japan, with total public and private consumption of only 61 per cent. It is inevitable that countries with a lower consumption rate will have stronger economic development.

The latest figures from China suggest that the apparently inexorable rise in the yen reflects the strength of the Asian economic revolution as much as a purely Japanese development. When the dollar falls below 80 yen, the decline of the West and the rise of the East is signalled. In the first quarter of 1995 the Chinese authorities, worried by inflation, managed to slow down the pace of economic growth from last year's 11.8 per cent to a seasonally adjusted 10 per cent. This small decline in the growth rate had a spectacular effect on the Chinese trade surplus, which rose to \$7 billion for the quarter. As with Japan, the United States is disputing China's restrictions on trade. That is largely irrelevant. A country which saves 39 per cent of GDP will naturally have a trade surplus with one which saves only 12.6 per cent.

In the first quarter of 1995 China was probably running the second largest trade surplus in the world, as well as the highest rate of growth of a

major economy. From 1997 onwards the Hong Kong surplus on services will be added to this Chinese surplus on trade. Their combined proportion of GDP available for investment and net exports is unlikely to be less than 40 per cent, far higher than the North American or European and somewhat higher even than the Japanese.

The Economist publishes figures which show what proportion of each nation's GDP is consumed, and how much is available for investment and exports. These figures are unavoidably somewhat out of date and are distorted by differences in business cycles. Yet the relationship between these ratings and economic development or currency strength cannot be questioned. If one gives a credit rating of AAA for consumption between 30 and 40 per cent, and a rating of AA for consumption between 40 and 50 per cent, and a rating of A for consumption between 50 and 60 per cent, and a rating of B for consumption between 60 and 70 per cent, and a rating of C for consumption between 70 and 80 per cent, and a rating of D for consumption between 80 and 90 per cent, and a rating of E for consumption between 90 and 100 per cent, then the figures for Russia would be out of date and entirely unreliable. Greece would be the only European Union country with a CCC.

The two large advanced economies with high ratings are Japan and Germany; inevitably the yen and the mark have become high value reserve currencies, over-valued in purchasing power parity terms. This has its own difficulties. It results in exaggerated overseas investment and in the export of jobs. Japan has suffered from several years of stock-market depression, and relatively low growth of the economy. The German economy looks overloaded as well as being high-cost.

Nevertheless, the countries with the lower credit ratings have the greater problems, particularly the United States. The high rating countries can generate the funds for high domestic investment, as in the case of

China, and are able to accumulate overseas investments and financial assets, as in the case of Japan. Their currencies tend to appreciate in value — though that is a deferred process for developing countries with high growth rates and pressures of domestic inflation.

The dollar is still by far the largest of the world's reserve currencies; even now it represents about 60 per cent of the world's currency reserves, and is used as the denominator for the large majority of world commodity prices. Britain suffers because the pound only deserves a B rating, though that may currently be improving; the world suffers because the US dollar is also on only a B rating. The exchange markets make it only too clear that this low rating for the dollar is not improving.

Policies that would raise the rating of the dollar — which is very important — or the pound — which is important to Britain — are obvious enough. It is necessary to encourage private saving, which can most directly be done by eliminating taxes on capital and on savings of all kinds, and by reducing public consumption, which requires harder electoral choices. These are conservative measures. In Britain, even a Blair Labour government would be under pressure to raise the taxes on savings and increase public consumption, which could reduce Britain to a CCC rating, alongside Greece. The finances of Red China are much more conservative, and much more successful, than those of the capitalist United States.

These currency imbalances cannot be put right by central banking, even where that is strong. Pro-savings policies, such as those of Singapore, Japan or China, have to run through the whole political system. The alternative, for Britain as for the United States, is economic decline, and probably fall as well.

Surely they will not go down this road. The Asian advantages in terms of high savings, high investment and trade surpluses are now being recognised worldwide. What could be called the Asian rules for taxation — no taxes on capital, no taxes on external earnings, a top income tax rate of 20, or at the most 30, per cent — are being studied or adopted in several leading Latin American countries, and in New Zealand. They could well become general. Even the Anglo-Saxons will sooner or later stop destroying the savings on which all development depends.

## Who are Major's real foes?

Make peace with the rebels, says

Nicholas Budgen

After the Scottish local elections on April 6, the Prime Minister was asked to explain the bad results for the Tories. He said: "People expect Conservatives to be united. When it does not happen, people are naturally concerned about it. I think that they have sent a fairly clear message on this occasion." Ian Lang, the Secretary of State for Scotland, put it even more forcefully: "We must certainly listen to the verdict of the electorate in these local elections. It reflects disunity within the Conservative Party."

So it was all the fault of the Tory Euro-rebels? It is a matter of fact that the public opinion polls supported the Government and the Prime Minister from the general election in May 1992 until our exit from the ERM on September 16 of that year. Since that exit the Government has never recovered its popularity. There is also evidence that those of us who oppose European federalism are more popular than those who support the Government's line.

Let us assume that disunity is an important electoral disadvantage. If so, this certainly gives the nine an importance, particularly in Scotland, which we need to win. Since most of us come from Middle England and none of us from north of Staffordshire, it is remarkable. However, if the Prime Minister believes his own argument, then he has the means of bringing the disunity to an end. Eight of us did not leave the parliamentary party. We were checked out at the end of last November. It was widely expected, and indeed authoritatively suggested, that the whip would be offered back to us at Easter. It can and should be offered back to all of us now.

Why the delay? First the Government expects the Tories to do badly in the local elections in England and Wales on May 4. It is highly likely that an attempt to blame us will be made on May 5 or 6; but this will not work as an effective explanation. However, I suppose it is easier to attack us than to admit that Tory policies, and personalities are unpopular.

The second reason for our exclusion is even more Byzantine. The newspapers are littered with reports that the Prime Minister is preparing to defend himself against an attack on his position shortly after May 4. The rules of the Tory party provide that if 10 per cent of the parliamentary party ask for an election for the leadership at the beginning of any session of Parliament, then an election must take place.

I have not been a part of the manoeuvring of any group in the Tory party. But I understand that the calculations of those who want a change of leadership run something like this. Let us get the necessary 32 or 33 names as soon as possible after May 4. Then we tell the press that we have these names. This so weakens the position of the Prime Minister that he has to ask for an election before the summer recess so as to clear the air and restore his authority. The rules of the Tory party provide that if 10 per cent of the parliamentary party ask for an election for the leadership at the beginning of any session of Parliament, then an election must take place. There have been a series of receptions at No 10 for constituency chairmen and their spouses. This was not to discuss their dogs or the Downing Street furniture.

Then there has been a threat that the names of the 32 or 33 will be leaked to Downing Street. No doubt somebody will explain how such leaking would be consistent with the neutrality in conducting elections with which the Whip Office and the committee of the 1992 Committee are supposed to behave.

Then again it is said that on May 5 we shall hear Mr Clarke, Mr Portillo and Mr Heseltine all lined up to explain that they support the Prime Minister and do not want a leadership election. Well, I am sure that these are but a few of many contingency plans that the Prime Minister has in place.

However, I suggest that for most of the nine, this is all unnecessary. Mr Major's dedicated enemies are outside our group. When at the end of November it was clear that we ran the risk of being kicked out of the party, some of those who were then our allies drew back. They did not want to be thrown out, because their first priority was to demand a leadership election as soon as possible. But for the nine the priority is and remains to influence policy over Europe and not to change the leadership.

Our party in the country is fighting with its back to the wall. Local councils are vital in carrying forward Conservative policies — particularly in education. Our council candidates are the core of our party. They need the best possible conditions in which to fight. This is more important than settling old scores or acting with narrow calculation. The sooner the Prime Minister acts with goodwill and generosity in bringing this silly tiff to an end the better.

The author is Conservative MP for Wolverhampton South West.

## Fair game?

CONSERVATIVE MPs are appalled by plans for a musical entitled *Bedfellows* based on the late Sir Nicholas Fairbairn. It is to be staged as part of the Perth Arts Festival next month, during the by-election campaign resulting from the maverick MP's death.

Holding court through the drama will be one Sir Christopher Vaine, a womaniser based on Fairbairn who has an astonishing dress sense and is standing down as MP. The musical features a Labour leader, Tony Bland, and concerns a by-election in the fictional seat of Auchtermyley which is based on Fairbairn's seat of Perth and Kinross.

Bill Walker, the Tory MP for neighbouring Tayside North, called the plan a disgrace. "It's in very poor taste putting on a show that is designed to ridicule the memory of a dead Member of Parliament brought about by that Member's death," he stormed. The Tory member for Uppingham, Sir Nicholas Bonsor, who attended Fairbairn's funeral, said: "It's much too close to his death. It will probably cause a great deal of upset to the family."

But Iain Halliday, chairman of the Perth Arts Festival, defended the plan to stage the musical. "While saddened by Sir Nicholas's death, I am sure he would have enjoyed it being the kind of character he was. He would have bought a ticket in the front row."

Localists have not been slow to cash in on the holed catamaran in Jersey. Geoffrey Spencer-Tucker, of

the Jersey Sea Sports Centre, is offering half-hour boat trips round the wreck of the St Malo at £5 a head.

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## We're British

THE LADIES swooned at his manly pronouncement. "Leave out the sex," he said, every inch the master of his craft. "We don't need the gory bits." Roy Hattersley, the part-time novelist and MP, was speaking at the Romantic Novelist of the Year Award yesterday, won by Charlotte Bingham for *Charge of Heart*.

Hattersley had entered his own novels in previous years, but to no avail. So unashamedly delicate is his prose that his typist once asked how four generations had evolved in a family where no one seemed even to touch anyone else. "I must be the only Yorkshireman and Sheffield Wednesday supporter who is happy to say the word 'love' in public," he replied.

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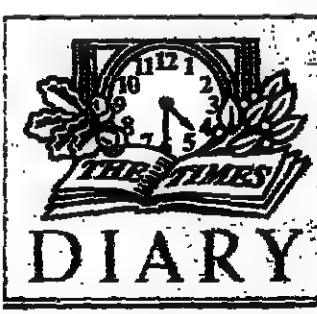
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trated motorists can now call on another source of spiritual guidance. For the first time since it was formed in 1905, the Automobile Association is to have a full-time chaplain. The Rev Brian Leathley, a dab-hand with the wheeljack, will assume his new mantle next year.

"I expect I'll have the occasional call-out from motorist members in distress," says Leathley, who zips about in a Peugeot 405 GLD turbo, "but there are 15,000 staff to minister to as well." The reverend has yet to call on the AA's mechanics himself. "I don't need them. I have wings," he says enigmatically.

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Teresa D'Abreu: roaring voice

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D'Abreu was in the rock music business and tended to play down her noble origins. She formed a group called the Sadista Sisters, a gentrified, all-female version of the Sex Pistols who swore at audi-

ences, wore fishnet stockings and wielded leather whips with abandon. One contemporary commentator remarked: "She had a voice like Concorde taking off. It was a rip-roaring rock show that made Blondie's Debbie Harry look like Minnie the Mouse." She had moved on from the days at Glamis Castle in Scotland when she hounded on the knee of the Queen Mother.

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## BASQUE BOMB

Explosion in Madrid betrays ETA

Upon the explosion of a bomb in Madrid, the Basque separatist group ETA claimed responsibility. The bomb was planted in a public square and exploded at the height of the morning rush hour. The explosion killed three people and injured many others. ETA has been responsible for a series of bombings and assassinations in the Basque region of Spain.

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## OUT THEY TROT

The SWP continues its subversive work

Doug McAvoy, the leader of the National Union of Teachers, deserves praise for his courageous attack upon the militant delegates who have brought shame upon the union's annual conference this week. Of the various organisations representing teachers, the NUT has long been the most left-wing. Yet the ferocity of its militant factions in the last few days — most disgracefully evident in the mobbing of David Blunkett on Saturday — has clearly shocked even seasoned NUT hands like Mr McAvoy.

Parents, meanwhile, have been asking why disorderly incidents of this sort should be happening at a gathering of teachers, the professionals to whom they entrust the care of their children. The principal reason seems to be the successful and well co-ordinated penetration of the union by militant groups such as the Socialist Workers Party. Most of the delegates who trapped Mr Blunkett were wearing SWP badges. The driving force behind this week's militancy, the Socialist Teachers' Alliance, is also dominated by the party. Its clear strategy has been to lead the opposition to the Government's education policy in pursuit of its objectives.

This is becoming a recognisable pattern. Since the expulsion of Trotskyite organisations from the Labour fold, the SWP has focused upon single-issue campaigns, infiltrating legitimate protests and using them. The party's placards have become a familiar sight at every kind of demonstration: against the poll tax, against road-building, against abuses of animals, against the Government's higher education policy, against the Criminal Justice Act. Their purpose in all cases has been to transform legitimate political protest into disorder that can be characterised as proto-revolutionary. The results have often been ugly. Law-abiding

people with a point to make have been exploited in the name of Trotskyite doctrine.

It is tempting to dismiss such groups as political cranks. To do so would be a mistake. The SWP is certainly well organised and has a growing membership which may already number 10,000. Because its philosophy is Trotskyite and its leaders opposed Soviet Communism, the party survived the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. It may even have strengthened its credibility on the hard-Left as a result. In recent years, the SWP has shown that it is capable of engineering minor but significant tremors in our political culture. Because the NUT's conference is a policymaking body, the party targeted that annual event in an attempt to impose its views on the largest teaching union. There is also evidence that its activists encouraged last year's rail strike.

The decline of radicalism in the Labour Party has made the SWP attractive to younger people who wish to express in action their hard-Left political beliefs. Some on the Labour Left argue that the Opposition should compete to win back this support. Tony Blair is right to resist this advice and to condemn militant action in forthright terms. By emphasising the distance between reformed Labour and the old variety, he is far more likely to win votes than to lose them. Indeed, nothing would serve the Opposition leader better than the eventual breakdown from the party of its left-wing malcontents.

The survival and relative prosperity of the SWP should also be of concern beyond the world of Labour, the unions and the Left. In spite of the Trotskyites' best hopes, the State is in no danger of being overthrown. That does not mean that calculated disruptions of public order or subversive exploitation of the right to free speech should be tolerated.

## BASQUE BOMBS

The terrorism in Madrid betrays Eta's desperation

None of the hardships visited upon the Basque country since the death of General Franco — and these have been small in number — can be attributed to José María Aznar. Yet the leader of Spain's conservative opposition Popular Party (PP) was yesterday the target of an attempted murder by Eta, the radical Basque terrorist organisation. The two bombs set off in the Spanish capital are proof that the country's bloody struggle against the forces of separatist violence and immigration is still an uphill one.

The attack on Señor Aznar — the cowardly murder in January of Gregorio Ordóñez, the PP's leading politician in the region — betrays Eta's desperation over the gains that party has made among Basque voters. Given their christian democratic inclinations, the Basques could learn to live with a PP administration in Madrid, provided Señor Aznar reforms rapidly his own party's outdated resistance to greater regional autonomy and restrains its more Castilian elements.

The explosions occurred on the day after a High Court judge indicted 14 former officials for having organised the Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group (GAL), a death squad which murdered 27 suspected Basque separatists between 1983 and 1987. Among those charged is Rafael Vera, the former Secretary of State for Security. Señor Vera's indictment makes still less credible the avowal earlier this year by Felipe González, the Prime Minister, that he "never authorised, covered up, or tolerated the actions of GAL".

The GAL trial, which promises to be a messy and prolonged affair, could bring again to the surface that sense of alienation from Madrid which most Basques have

gradually taught themselves to overcome. Spain's present constitution is an admirable model for any multi-ethnic state seeking ways to accommodate the demands of its peoples. The Franco regime may have dedicated itself to erasing the Basque identity in a war of "assimilation", but the Basque country today is one of the most free autonomous regions in Europe.

Basque, the impenetrable local language, is promoted at great expense, even though large sections of society learn it less than wholeheartedly. The regional administration, which has considerable powers to raise and spend taxes, also commands its own police force. This degree of autonomy, and the consolidation of democratic political institutions, has undercut support for radical alternatives.

Julio Caro Baroja, the noted Basque anthropologist, once wrote that "to be a liberal in the Basque country is to be a lunatic; it is like talking to yourself in the street": he would not recognise the place today. For it is the growth of a liberal consciousness among the Basques that best illustrates the distance the region has travelled since Franco died.

Violence, which once enjoyed a certain political authority in the Basque country, is today a discredited tool: support for Eta is at its lowest ebb. Most importantly, the Basques have realised that the problem of terrorism is as much their own as it is Madrid's. Unlike Ulster, where divisions are religious and atavistic, the Basque country's violence is the product of ideological hardliners whose popular support shrinks by the day. Eta's brand of terrorist bomb and nationalist myth deserves only the strongest condemnation.

## SUN RISES IN THE WEST

The Japanese must change if they are to become inventors

Nintendo, the Japanese video games manufacturer, has made a multimillion-dollar investment in Rare, a tiny British video software developer run by a team of extravagantly inventive brothers. The decision inevitably invites consideration of one of the most enduring mysteries about the Japanese — that they are unable to generate any ideas of their own. It also provokes reflection on the failure of so many Japanese firms to make good use of the talent of Western entertainment culture, in which they invest so heavily as "software".

Sony trod this path in 1989, buying pop stars, film idols and its own Hollywood studio, Columbia Pictures Entertainment. The result was a series of flops, and a \$3.1 billion loss for Sony Pictures Entertainment. A similar fate befell Matsushita after it too made the pilgrimage to Hollywood and bought MCA Universal.

The long-term prognosis for the Nintendo-Rare union does not look good. The problem lies in an unfathomable cultural divide which makes Japanese executive engagement with Western creative teams extremely difficult. In Sony's case this manifested itself in buttoned-down, risk-averse Japanese managers expecting systematically quantified potential, delivered in advance. This was impossible to reconcile with good creative film-making.

Japan has had trouble working with instinctive Western creative talent. Free-ranging experiment accords ill with the Japanese sublimation of individual interests to those of the group. This is not to say that Japan has no creativity of its own. But the rigid corporate structure and education sys-

tem are not ideal breeding grounds for the great intuitive leaps by which the frontiers of human knowledge are advanced.

Susumu Tonegawa, one of Japan's three Nobel laureates for science, who won in 1987 several years after leaving Japan for the less restrictive atmosphere of an American research institute, has made it clear that he considers the hierarchy and formalism of academic Japan to be inimical to free inquiry. The invention of the random access memory, for example, could not have happened in Japan because it required a different concept of scientific inquiry from goal-orientated Japanese R&D. It also required a commitment of time, money and talent to the thousands of failures and dead-end projects that went before. Japan does not have a history of bearing those costs in order to generate home-grown inventions. Innovation, not invention, is how Japanese creativity manifests itself.

Through tie-ups and takeovers Japanese companies still hope to absorb the best of what the West has to offer. But Japanese firms will reap full rewards only if they recognise cultural gaps and avoid the lure of ownership with all its managerial pitfalls. They should opt instead for financial arrangements guaranteeing access to the ideas. Better still, Japan should start to foster its own creative talents. If its software industry is to compete, Japan needs a few hackers. If its biotechnology industry is to make breakthroughs, Japan must begin fully to understand the value of accident and aberration. This is asking the Japanese to modify their Japanese-ness, but no less will be required if they are to make the pace.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Chief suppliers of arms to Saddam

From Mr Richard Worcester

Sir, It may not be widely known that in 1991, before the Scott inquiry on arms to Iraq was conceived, Americans and Israelis conducted a comprehensive analysis of all arms that were supplied to Saddam during the Iran-Iraq war by all countries. The price miscreants were of course the Soviet Union, with 40 different types of weapons, followed by France (27).

Four other countries could sell comparatively few: Brazil (8), Italy (13), Chile (7) and Egypt (13). The remaining 19 countries each sold a handful of different weapon systems. At the bottom of the list were America and Britain, with one each. Even ultra-neutral Switzerland sold four different types of system.

The one American instance was the supply of 81 Bell 214ST helicopters (the ST stands for Super Transport) probably used to ferry wounded back from the front line. The British instance referred to 55 Saboteur personnel carriers, maybe for taking medical staff forward.

Britain and the US can be proud that they adhered to UN guidelines and consciences not to sell arms to warring nations or factions. If the Scott inquiry makes this point it will have served a purpose, albeit expensively.

Yours truly,  
RICHARD WORCESTER,  
Surrey House,  
Parkside, Wimbledon, SW19,  
April 12.

### Tory discontent

From Mr Michael Spicer, MP for Worcestershire South (Conservative)

Sir, I am appalled that another Bank Holiday has gone by without there being a restoration of the Whip to the nine Conservative whipless MPs. Their continued absence from the Conservative parliamentary party is a gift to those who wish to undermine the general unity and purpose of the House of Commons.

Both the Government and the whipless have a clear interest in the immediate resolution of this matter. The Government needs the nine votes in the Commons; the whipless need to re-establish their influence within the mainstream of the Conservative Party and to avoid the danger that they and the cause they represent will be marginalised.

It is crucial that there is now a closing of the ranks.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL SPICER,  
House of Commons,  
April 17.

From Mr Jeremy Bath

Sir, Mr Brian Whittingham (letter, April 13) is far from alone in his concern over the underperformance at work within the main infrastructure of the present Government.

Actions of more than one Government minister have been repeatedly criticised and indeed overturned by the judiciary, but I fear that the creation of the Courts Agency, controlled as it is by unelected officials, seriously threatens the freedom and independence which the courts have traditionally exercised.

As a lawyer I am deeply alarmed at the unconstitutional acts of the Major Government. As a businessman I am appalled by their incompetence.

For 30 years I have religiously supported the Conservative Party but it now no longer represents the views and beliefs which are fundamental to so many of its supporters in the middle classes.

Having committed itself to getting rid of the burden of an unworkable marriage with nationalisation the Labour Party led by Mr Blair is a far more appealing prospect for me at the ballot box.

Yours sincerely,  
JEREMY BATH,  
Apartment 1, Unicorn House,  
The Village, Prestbury, Cheshire,  
April 13.

From Mr Eric Turnbull

Sir, Norman Lamont made a speech ("Scrap their costly vanity", April 13) in which he said that the European Parliament was unnecessary. Whoever down the centuries would have predicted that in 1995 a Conservative Member of Parliament would need to address the Campaign for an Independent Britain?

Yours faithfully,  
ERIC TURNBULL,  
1 St Leonards Court,  
St Leonards Road, East Sheen, SW14,  
April 13.

### Floral support

From Mr John Fowler

Sir, The *Amelanchier canadensis*, or June Berry, is carrying the most beautiful bloom this spring.

Should we not each be planting one, if not now in direct support of our Canadian cousins, at least in memory of the fish on the Grand Banks?

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN E. FOWLER,  
J. Fowler & Sons,  
Warren Farm,  
Romford, Essex,  
April 18.

### Consequences of teachers' militancy

From Mr R. A. Adcock

Sir, The mood of frustration so evident at the teachers' conferences is widely shared by all the partners in education. One of the striking features of recent months has been the accord between governors, parents and teachers. However, militant action by teachers will undermine this accord and play into the hands of Government by ceding to them the moral high ground, which at the moment they have lost.

We would all like to vent our frustration in some sort of effective action, but the target is elusive. We are dealing not just with government policies but also with the dissemination of conflicting information in the tug-of-war between Government and local education authorities (LEAs). The casualties are truth and our children's education.

We now need an Education Charter to set out the commitment of Government, LEAs and the Funding Agency for Schools, and the responsibilities and rights of governors, parents, pupils and teachers. It would provide a framework within which education could be planned into the next century.

The time may be propitious, given the public concern and the fact that government and opposition spokesmen seem to be talking much the same language about education.

I suggest, therefore, some sort of commission to draw together politicians, practitioners and the other partners in education to try to achieve consensus. Perhaps the National Governors' Council set up last year (details, *The Times Educational Supplement*, October 28; November 4, 1994) might be a focus for such a development.

Yours faithfully,  
ROGER ADCOCK (Secretary,  
Devon Association of Governors),  
The Barn, North Sibleborough,  
Louth, Leicestershire, LE17 9JN,  
April 19.

From Mrs R. Bobbin

Sir, As a teacher I am appalled that the unions should jeopardise the frag-

ile peace recently established with the Government. Surely, negotiation, not industrial action, is the key to furthering the aims of teachers.

In India I taught classes of 40 to 50 with relative ease because the children were well motivated and keen to learn. Here in Britain many teachers are confronted with increasing numbers of highly disruptive children. In this situation, class size does matter and teachers need far more support than they get.

Yours in frustration,  
R. BOBBIN,  
Churchgate Cottage,  
Church Lane, Weston,  
Hitchin, Hertfordshire,  
April 19.

From Sir Terence Conran

Sir, There is constant debate among teachers, government ministers and parents about the rewards teaching staff get. As far as I know, nobody has ever compared the number of hours teachers, university lecturers and professors work per annum with those of their equivalents in commerce or industry.

If you are encouraging a lively debate in the pages of your paper, I am sure that the analysis of this subject could become one. Time is money, we are told.

Yours faithfully,  
TERENCE CONRAN,  
22 Shad Thames, SE1,  
April 18.

From Mrs Paula M. C. King

Sir, As a teacher of 40 years' experience, I was greatly saddened to see colleagues' behaviour towards Mr David Blunkett, MP (report, April 17; leading article, April 18).

After such an exhibition, how can we hope to gain the respect we should be able to command — and where is the much sought-after professionalism?

Yours faithfully,  
PAULA M. C. KING,  
White Gates, Windlesham, Surrey,  
April 18.

### Study of Classics

From Professor Vivian Nutton

Sir, The pragmatists among your correspondents (April 8, 11, 17) who take comfort in the welcome expansion of classical studies weaken their case by assuming that only the authors of ancient Greece and Rome are of importance, and that translations now supply adequately the wants of those who have no Greek or Latin. Neither assumption is valid.

Even today, there is no English translation of one third of the Hippocratic Corpus and over half the Galenic Corpus, classical writings that formed the basis of the Western medical tradition.

The situation is far worse for post-classical writings. Only a minute percentage of the abundant literature produced in Latin down to the 19th century has been translated into a modern language, or even well.

If the study of Latin in this country declines to the extent that Greek has already done, future generations will be denied access to the achievements of major scientists, philosophers, and historians, to say nothing of humbler memorials and epitaphs, and large parts of our heritage will be effectively lost in a new Dark Age. Concern for

the future of Latin should not be confined to classicists.

Yours faithfully,  
VIVIAN NUTTON,  
Professor of the History of Medicine,  
University College London,  
225 Sandpit Lane,  
St Albans, Hertfordshire.

From Mr Simon E. Fishburn

Sir, There is another aspect of the current neglect of classical languages by educational institutions which is rarely referred to. It is a fact that many scholars in fields of study which are allied to classical languages and culture started out as classicists but used their linguistic, historical or archaeological training in fields as diverse as Egyptology, Assyriology, Islamic languages and literature, Indian studies and even Chinese and Japanese.

The use of "classical techniques" in these other fields has undoubtedly borne valuable fruit. Are we now to cast aside carelessly a tradition which should aid our understanding of this diverse world of ours?

Yours faithfully,  
S. E. FISHBURN,  
10 The Old Convent, Mount Road,  
East Grinstead, West Sussex,  
April 18.

### Fish farming

From Professor Emeritus S. John Pirt

Sir, The fisheries crisis is here to stay (letters, April 14). There are never again going to be enough fish in the wild to satisfy the market. The rising world population combined with raised living standards will see to that.

The only solution to the problem is to divert from hunting fish to farming fish. However, fish farming is an under-developed, novel biotechnology. In the research institutes, fisheries research seems to be concentrated on counting the number of fish left in the sea (ecology) rather than developing farming technology. The concepts for farming any kind of fish or sea food exist but need long-term research and development.

Britain, which borders on about 75 per cent of the fishing grounds of Europe, could make fish farming one of its major manufacturing industries in the future.

Some big thinking in biotechnology is required to solve the fisheries crisis, not fish wars.

Yours faithfully,  
S. JOHN PIRT,  
50 Chardfield Avenue, Putney, SW15,  
April 13.

### Fish out of water

From Mr S. B. Tress

Sir, The appearance of a salmon in Dockland waters (News in Brief, April 13) is a welcome indication that fish are returning to London's river.

How has this event been celebrated? By catching the salmon, allowing it to die and then stuffing and mounting it. This hardly seems the best way to foster aquatic life in the Thames.

Yours sincerely,  
S. B. TRESS,  
34 Shelley Gardens,  
North Wembley, Middlesex,  
April 13.

### Police trauma

From Dr Peter Horsey

Sir, The public image of the police is that they are, as Mr Justice Waller described them, "persons of extraordinary phlegm". Time and again they display high courage and doubtless most of them took no pride in the Hillsborough compensation claim (report and leading article, April 11; letter, April 13).

If the six officers and the lawyers who acted for them had been at the Belsen Commemoration at the Imperial War Museum on April 12, they would have heard, as I did, eyewitness accounts from those who as young soldiers (including a former Archbishop of Canterbury) witnessed sights for which neither they, nor the world at large, would have believed possible.

No counselling for them, no suing for post-traumatic stress disorder. Like Housman's mercenaries, "What God abandoned, these defended, and saved the sum of things for pay" — and they were no mercenaries.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER HORSEY,  
The Old Manor,  
Ashley, Stockbridge, Hampshire,  
April 14.

### One in the eye

From Mr Brian Taylor

Sir, At a recent wartime Royal Air Force squadron reunion, the first I have attended, someone came up to me and said, "My God, Harold, you haven't changed a bit".

Yours sincerely,  
BRIAN TAYLOR,  
Ward House, Walkhampton,  
Yelverton, Devon,  
April 17.

### A uniform for the go-ahead solicitor

From Mr C. M. F. Langdon

Sir, The Lord Chancellor has decided that solicitors may not wear wigs in court (News in Brief, April 12). The Law Society needs now to accept that decision and recognise that solicitors have no real affinity with wigs. Their existing court dress (even with the addition of a wig) is drab and does little to enhance the professional image of solicitors.

What the Law Society needs to do is to seek to replace the existing court dress for solicitors with a cracking new uniform that would put barristers' gowns and wigs in the shade which their old-fashioned image requires. The Law Society should encourage a positive debate for a replacement court dress and then initiate a competition to select the best and most appropriate.

If the exercise is properly carried out, the Lord Chancellor would be unlikely to resist the compelling pressure for an improvement in the sartorial presentation of solicitor advocates.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER LANGDON,  
68 Albany Court, Robertson Terrace,  
Hastings, East Sussex,  
April 12.

### Memorial trees

From Mr David Childs

Sir, It was with some sorrow I read about the decision to fell the avenue of maple trees planted at Bramshott, Hampshire, as a memorial to Canadian war dead (report, later editions, April 6).

In November the Prime Minister launched an appeal to create a national memorial arboretum in Staffordshire which is to be a living tribute to the wartime generations of the century (letter, November 14, 1994). Organisations, associations and individuals are being encouraged to donate commemorative trees for planting at the site, which has been gifted in perpetuity by Redland plc. It will therefore become a place where visitors will be able to give thanks to all those who gave so much to secure our future.

We would obviously welcome the opportunity, should it be necessary, for re-establishing this fine memorial to all the Canadians who gave their lives by planting a grove of maples within the arboretum. Amongst the trees planted could be ones propagated from those being felled.

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID CHILDS (Appeal Director),  
The National Memorial  
Arboretum Appeal,  
Europa House,  
13-17 Ironmonger Row, EC1.

### Crèche value

From the Headmaster of Chetham's School of Music

Sir, I am saddened to read that Beryl Goldsmith does not support the notion of a crèche at Westminster (Diary, April 13). Recently a talented teacher accepted an invitation to join the staff at this school only because a crèche will be available. Without such provision we could have lost someone's special talents.

The health and prosperity of all institutions, including Westminster, may one day be judged on the quality of their managers rather than their managers.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER F. HULLAH,  
The Headmaster's House,  
Chetham's School of Music,  
Long Millgate, Manchester,  
April 13.

### TV arts quality

From Mr Stephen Phillips

Sir, Your report (April 12) on the Independent Television Commission's performance reviews of TV companies said: "Meridian: documentaries praised but arts sector disappointing". In fact, referring to *The Pier*, which accounts for 80 per cent of the arts output, the review said the ITC's consultative council "was impressed by the quality of this programme, but disappointed in the revised scheduling".

Meridian has already addressed the issue of giving it a more popular time-slot.

Yours sincerely,  
STEPHEN PHILLIPS  
(Series Editor), *The Pier*,  
Antelope South, Oliver House,  
18 Marine Parade, Brighton, Sussex,  
April 13.

### In vino veritas

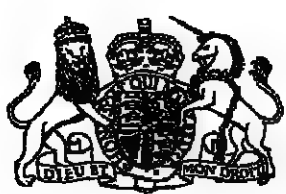
From Mr Anthony Davies

Sir, Mr John Ullman's dilemma (letter, April 18) — whether to serve his wedding guests the vintage or non-vintage champagne first — is simply resolved if he follows a 2,000-year-old precedent. When Christ turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2, 10) the "ruler of the feast" was astonished that their host had kept the best wine to the end.

Even then, it appears, it was customary to serve the finest wine first.

Yours faithfully,  
A. G. T. DAVIES,  
Cape Cottage, Lower Woodford,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire,  
April 19.





## COURT CIRCULAR

## WINDSOR CASTLE

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, this morning opened the Glaxo Wellcome Medicines Research Centre, near Sevenoaks, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Kent, Sir Richard Sykes (Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive), Sir Colin Cornes (Non-executive Chairman) and the Mayor of Sevenoaks (Councillor R. Smith).

Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque before touring the centre with Sir Richard Sykes, who was accompanied by Sir Colin Cornes and the Mayor of Sevenoaks. The Queen, with the Duke of Edinburgh, subsequently honoured the Deputy Chairman with her presence at lunch.

Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness, Chancellor, University of Cambridge, this afternoon opened the Queen's Building, Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crockett), the Vice-Chancellor and Visitor, University of Cambridge (Sir David Williams) and the Master, Emmanuel College (the Lord St John of Fawley).

The Queen unveiled a commemorative plaque and afterwards, with the Duke of Edinburgh, met members of the Middle and Junior Common Rooms.

After attending a short musical performance in the Chapel Her Majesty and Her Royal Highness met Fellows, their wives and other guests at a reception.

The Lady Farnham, Mr Robin Jarvin and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening gave a Dinner for the Berkshire Community Trust at Frogmore House, Windsor Park.

Sir Brian McGrath was in attendance. BUCKINGHAM PALACE

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited the Prison Inverness, Fortrose, Inverness, and was received by the Lord of Inverness (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Inverness-shire, Mrs David Bonnes-Lyon) who was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, this evening attended the Children in Cities 'Time and Tide' Reception at the Queen's House, Greenwich, London SE10.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance. ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 19: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, Army Air Corps, this morning received Lieutenant Colonel Nicholas Parker upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer, 3 Regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel John Greenhalgh upon assuming the appointment.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, Army Air Corps, afterwards received Lieutenant Colonel Parker Lawless upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer, 3 Regiment, and Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Walsh upon assuming the appointment.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Parachute Regiment, subsequently received Lieutenant Colonel Robert Kershaw upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer, 10th (Volunteer) Battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Madlin upon assuming the appointment.

His Royal Highness, Duke of Cornwall, this afternoon received the Secretary of the Duchy of Cornwall (Mr John James).

The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, later chaired a meeting of the Court of Advisors at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness this evening gave a Reception for Anne, Duchess of Westminster, at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, today visited Rolls-Royce Aerospace Group, Motor Lane, Derby, Derbyshire, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Derbyshire (Mr John Baines).

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance. The Duchess of Kent this morning visited the Women's and Children's Hospital, Adelaide, South Australia.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon attended a luncheon hosted by the South Australian Country Women's Association Incorporated and the Royal District Nursing Service of South Australia Incorporated, at the Country Women's Association, Adelaide.

The Duchess of Kent later visited the Tindarra Aboriginal Cultural Institute, Adelaide.

Her Royal Highness this evening attended a State Dinner hosted by the Premier of South Australia, the Hon. Peter R. Bevan, at the Adelaide Hotel, Adelaide.

His Royal Highness, President, the National Trust, this morning visited the Children in Cities 'Time and Tide' Reception at the Queen's House, Greenwich, London SE10.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance. ST JAMES'S PALACE

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## School news

## Beaconsfield Park

The Summer Term begins today and ends with Speech Day on July 12. There will be a return of Old Beaufortians on Sunday, May 14 prior to the retirement of Mr and Mrs John Keyte. For details, telephone 01453 832072 for details.

## Bromsgrove School

School convenes today for the Summer Term. The Summer Concert will be held on Thursday, May 18. Time and the Tunes will be performed in the drama studio on Thursday and Friday, May 4 and 5. Term ends with Commemoration Day on Saturday, July 1.

## Kirkcaldy School

Term started yesterday and ends on July 6. Speech Day is on May 27, when Baroness Blatch will present the Prizes. This will be followed by the opening of the new Art Centre. Old Kirkcaldians' Day is June 24. The importance of Being Different will be staged on June 29, 30 and July 1.

## The King's School, Ely

The Summer Term began yesterday. Old Eleans are warmly invited to the School on Saturday, April 22, for the Annual Gathering. There will be a Prep School Wind Band Day on Thursday, May 4, and the School Concert will take place in the University Music Faculty Hall, West Road, Cambridge on Thursday, May 18, at 7.00pm. The Industry Conference will be held on Monday and Tuesday, July 3 and 4. The Acremont House Festival of Thanksgiving and the Junior School Prizegiving will take place in the Cathedral during the morning of Friday, July 7. The Senior School Prizegiving and End of Year Service will begin at 2.00pm. The Guest of Honour being the Rev William M. Brown, Headmaster of the King's School between 1947 and 1952.

## Rugby School

The Trinity Term begins today at Rugby School. The 80th anniversary of the birth of Dr Thomas Arnold is on June 13. A special exhibition celebrating his life will open in the new gallery of the School Museum on May 21. James Lloyd (Town House) is Captain of Cricket. Rosalind Aldrich (Arches House) is Captain of Girls' Tennis. Ryan Wilson (Cotton House) and Gerry Nowakowski (Bradley House) are Captains of Athletics. The Careers Convention will be held on April 22. Parents' Reunion will be held on May 12. The new building designed by Sir Michael and Lady Hopkins. Her Majesty was received by the Lord Lieutenant and the Hon. Sir John de Vere. The Vice-Chancellor of the University and visitor of Emmanuel, Sir David Williams, and the Master, Lord St John of Fawley. Among those present were the Ambassadors of France, M. Jean Guigou, the Ambassador of the Argentine, Mr Rogelio Pflüger, and Mrs Pflüger; Heads of Houses of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge; the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester; the Lord Bishop of Peterborough; Lady Butler; Lady Williams; Sir Michael and Lady Hopkins; Ms Wendy Taylor; the President of the College's Development Campaign, Mr W.G. Salisbury; and Members of the Committee of Honour. Honorary Fellows, Honorary Members, and Junior Members of the College.

## People and Places

Mr Hugo Vickers delivered an illustrated lecture on Cecil Beaton, his life and work, at a soiree in the People and Places series held last night at Southfields, in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital's Children's appeal. Mrs Iris Barnham-Lee, president, was in the chair.

## Luncheon

HM Government The Hon Douglas Hogg, QC, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the guest at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at the Carlton Club in honour of the Ambassador of Estonia.

## Brigadier Sir Alexander Stanier, Bt

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Brigadier Sir Alexander Stanier, Bt, DSO, MC, will be held on Tuesday, April 25, at 11.00am, in the Church of St. Andrew, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London, SW1.

## Appointment

Mr Derek Rowland Hatherly will be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the Wales and Chester Circuit.



The Queen inspects a tree planted 11 years ago to mark the quatercentenary of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, in front of The Queen's Building which she opened yesterday. She is accompanied by Lord St John of Fawley, Master of the college. The Queen's Building was designed by Sir Michael and Lady Hopkins, designers of the new Glyndebourne Opera House

## Emmanuel College, Cambridge

On Wednesday, April 19, 1995, Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, the Hon. Sir John de Vere, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, the Hon. Sir David Williams, the Master of Emmanuel, Sir David Williams, and the Master, Lord St John of Fawley. Among those present were the Ambassadors of France, M. Jean Guigou, the Ambassador of the Argentine, Mr Rogelio Pflüger, and Mrs Pflüger; Heads of Houses of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge; the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester; the Lord Bishop of Peterborough; Lady Butler; Lady Williams; Sir Michael and Lady Hopkins; Ms Wendy Taylor; the President of the College's Development Campaign, Mr W.G. Salisbury; and Members of the Committee of Honour. Honorary Fellows, Honorary Members, and Junior Members of the College.

## Memorial services

Lord Taylor of Hadfield The Lord Chancellor was represented by Mr A.E. Shaw at a memorial service for Lord Taylor of Hadfield, President of the Taylor-Woodrow Group, held at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, on Wednesday, April 19, 1995. The service was held in the Chapel of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, at 11.00am. The service was presided over by the Lord Chancellor, Mr A.E. Shaw. The service was attended by the Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, the Hon. Sir John de Vere, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, the Hon. Sir David Williams, the Master of Emmanuel, Sir David Williams, and the Master, Lord St John of Fawley. Among those present were the Ambassadors of France, M. Jean Guigou, the Ambassador of the Argentine, Mr Rogelio Pflüger, and Mrs Pflüger; Heads of Houses of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge; the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester; the Lord Bishop of Peterborough; Lady Butler; Lady Williams; Sir Michael and Lady Hopkins; Ms Wendy Taylor; the President of the College's Development Campaign, Mr W.G. Salisbury; and Members of the Committee of Honour. Honorary Fellows, Honorary Members, and Junior Members of the College.

## BIRTHS

BERGAM - On April 18th, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, a daughter, Caroline Vivian, a sister for James.

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## Forthcoming marriages

## Mr A.A. Cowgill

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Brigadier and Mrs Anthony Cowgill, of Sheepscombe, Gloucestershire, and Anna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alexander McCrae, of Strathpeffer, Ross-shire.

## Mr G.R. Deady

The engagement is announced between Giles, son of Mr and Mrs M.G. Deady, of Ribben, Switzerland, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Turnbull, of Silverdale, Lancashire.

## Mr P.E.G. de Soles

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs M.G. Deady, of Ribben, Switzerland, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Turnbull, of Silverdale, Lancashire.

## Mr T.G. Gilson

The engagement is announced between Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs George Gilson, of Nagsend, Gloucestershire, and Geraldine, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. de Soles, of Silverdale, Lancashire.

## Mr J.S.G. Hales

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs J.S.G. Hales, of Auckland, New Zealand, and Sarah, daughter of Mr Peter de Soles, of Silverdale, Lancashire.

## Mr N.G.G. Henderson

The engagement is announced between Nicholas, eldest son of Mr and Mrs N.G.G. Henderson, of East Horsley, Surrey, and Margherita, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Gabriel Venegas Albertus, of Salamanca, Castile, Spain.

## Mr A.E.I. Lister

The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs A.E.I. Lister, of London, and Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs George Gilson, of Nagsend, Gloucestershire.

## Mr P.T.W. Mackie

The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mr and Mrs P.T.W. Mackie, of Lissansoure, Co. Antrim, and Emily, daughter of Mr Patrick and Lady Anne Ford, of Seaford, Co. Down.

## Mr J.H. Petherick, RM.

The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Rear Admiral and Mrs David Petherick, of Truro, Devon, and Sally, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J.H. Petherick, of Truro, Devon.

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## Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will re-open Passend Street, Windsor, at noon, and accept the Freedom of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, followed by luncheon at the Guildhall at 1.15pm.

The Prince of Wales as Patron of the Prince's Trust Volunteers will visit the Prince's Trust, 100, Strand, London WC2R 2AL, at 11.30am.

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## PERSONAL COLUMN

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BMD'S: 0171 782 7272

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

As a shepherd goes in search of his sheep when he is in every direction, so I shall go in search of my love and peace. (Ezekiel 34: 12)

BIRTHS

ANSTY - On April 17th, at Royal Hampshire County Hospital, to Lady and Henry, a daughter, a sister for Lady and Henry.

ASHTON - On April 17th, to Emma and Henry, a daughter, a sister for Emma and Henry.

BAIN - On April 17th, to Margaret and Christopher, a daughter, a sister for Margaret and Christopher.

CAIRNS - On April 17th, to Amanda and Michael, a daughter, a sister for Amanda and Michael.

CHEWELL - On April 17th, to Peter and Jane, a daughter, a sister for Peter and Jane.

COLE - On April 17th, to Claire and George, a daughter, a sister for Claire and George.

COURAGE - On April 17th, to John and Rachel, a daughter, a sister for John and Rachel.

DARTMOUTH - On April 17th, to David and Mary, a daughter, a sister for David and Mary.

DAVIS - On April 17th, to John and Mary, a daughter, a sister for John and Mary.

FREEMAN-ATTWOOD - On April 17th, to Peter and Jane, a daughter, a sister for Peter and Jane.



**COMMANDER RICHARD POOL**

Now, certainly, we have not the slightest objection to any part of this proceeding. And now, also, that the issue is certain, we will frankly acknowledge our regret that the observations appeared in offensive and improper terms: but for this we must plead the excuse which our printer placed at the bar—the distraction of our attention by a variety of important objects, and the hurry of composition.

But if we are content to bear the trouble consequent upon an unintentional error, far from content should we be if others were allowed to carry off the honour of those feelings of sympathy for the sufferings of Ireland which prompted in

uplift the obnoxious article, and carried the expression of it in an undue length. We call ourselves the friends of Ireland, and even that we have no hereditary title to a degree of hatred to any individual, Irish Lord or even man, if he spent all the revenues of his estates in the country, and for its benefit. We do not now speak of the *aid* which we rendered on the question of the Catholic Emancipation, for that was a matter of course, and not to be considered by blindness and infatuation. None, we presume, will dispute the duties of humanity, or deny the obligation of relieving the distressed; and a few years ago, when so small a portion of the Irish population was in a state of general distress, we were called upon, under its pressure *aid*, we took up their cause. Our columns teemed with articles, into which we breathed all the force we were able, calling upon our countrymen to succour their dying neighbours by liberal subscriptions. We taxed the journals, and the journals taxed the *aid*, and connected with the establishment taxed themselves, for the same benevolent purpose. The project succeeded; Ireland was relieved, and what is more, we have been assured that many thousands of our countrymen, with titles and estates—ultimately received their *aid* from these funds which were originally raised by our incitement to save the dying peasantry of their estates from absolute starvation! It was the same principle, and they were the same motives, which actuated the *aid* for the poor, and the *aid* for the poor—incidentally extended, which has been made the subject of complaint in the British House of Peers.



## ROOM SERVICE

## Take a summer break at a European city hotel

INTER-CONTINENTAL is to relaunch its weekend and summer promotional packages. The Heart Of The City weekend breaks programme, which starts next month and covers 47 European hotels, offers guests two levels of package, each including an additional option such as a free extra night, theatre tickets or airport/station transfer. From mid-June, Inter-Continental launches its Summer Spectacular programme of room rates with up to 50 per cent off the normal price. Details: 0345 581444.

THE County Hotel in Bedford, part of the Queens Moat Houses chain, is running a series of wildlife weekends hosted by experts and including visits to various wildlife habitats. From July 7-9 the theme is Summer Wildlife, including an evening bat walk. At the Changing Seasons weekend on September 22-24, bird migration is the subject. Cost is £110 per person for two nights including meals and excursions. Details: 01234 799955.

PURFLEET and Oldham are the two latest Travel Inns to be opened by Whitbread, bringing its total of UK budget hotels to 70. The 30-room Purfleet Hotel is located just off Junction 30/31 of the M25 and close to the Lakeside Shopping Centre, Thurrock, Essex. The new 40-room Travel Inn at Chadderton, Oldham, is close to the M62 and convenient for attractions

such as the Granada Studio Tour in Manchester. All rooms cost £34.50 a night for up to two adults and two children. Details from 01582 414341.

LONDON hotels are enjoying their best occupancy levels for a decade, according to a survey from Pannell Kerr Forster Associates, hotel con-

price £100, from Pannell Kerr Forster Associates, 78, Hutton Garden, London EC1N 3JA.

SUMMER savings of up to half normal rates are being offered by Copthorne Hotels at its 16 hotels in the UK and on the Continent. Packages include £99 for two people for two nights at the new Copthorne Hotel at Merry Hill, Dudley, over the two May Bank-Holiday weekends. This package includes dinner on one night, and the option of a third night for £15 a person extra. Details: 0800 414741.

MARRIOTT Hotels plans to convert a fifth of its total hotel rooms into special accommodation for business travellers by the end of the year. It will incorporate work station with modern, moveable lights, and adjustable chair among other features. The rooms will be developed under the curiously named "Room That Works" programme, and is based on research into the work habits of more than 1,000 frequent business travellers.

MARRIOTT has also teamed up with British Airways to offer Air Miles for business travellers. Under the Marriott Miles programme, BA Executive Club members get a bonus 250 Air Miles every fifth time they stay in a Marriott Hotel on top of the 50 Air Miles awarded for every stay. Details: 0500 720 721.

DAVID CHURCHILL

## BARGAIN OF THE WEEK

CHILDREN under 12 can stay and eat free in more than 150 Holiday Inns across Europe this summer under its Weekend Plus/Best Breaks programme. Children who share their parents' room are entitled to breakfast and a dish from the children's menu at lunch and dinner when accompanied by an adult. The weekend packages, which also apply to weekdays during July and August, cost from £45 to £109 a room a night, depending on location. Details: 0800 897 121.

substant. Average room occupancy in the capital over the past 12 months was 81.2 per cent with business hotels achieving a higher level of 84.5 per cent.

© The London Trends Survey.

## Snap up a spring bargain

Christine Wheeler sifts through the best travel deals on offer this week

## LONG-HAUL

LONG-HAUL flight-only offers (albeit with strings) abound, including a "companion fare" (two travelling together) from Journey Latin America (0181 747 3108) to Buenos Aires (£472 per person), Rio (£405) and Puerto Rico (£400). Scheduled departures from Heathrow or Gatwick. Minimum five nights, maximum 3 months. Bookings must be made by April 30 for departure between now until end of June. Or take off from one of 15 regional UK airports to Nairobi (£409 per person) or Lilongwe, Malawi (£462) arranged by Quest Worldwide (0181 547 3322). Outward travel must be by June 15. Minimum stay seven days, maximum three months, and all travel completed by end of June. Worldwide Journeys and Expeditions (0171 381 8638) have savings of £200 per person on safaris to Zimbabwe, Botswana and Tanzania in May and June. A 15-day escorted Zimbabwe safari is £2,090 per person with flights and full board.

## AMERICA

DOUG Florida? Sliced in Aspen? Why not try the US national parks? There is a choice of escorted tours and pre-arranged self drives from Travelpack (0161 707 4404). A 21-day escorted coach trip includes visits to Banff, Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon and Glacier national parks on 12 departure dates until September from Los Angeles. £1,285 per person including room-only accommodation, but excluding transatlantic flights.



A peek at Peking? Kuo (01306 743000) offers seven nights for £499 at the Holiday Inn Lido, departures May 3 to June 28 by BA from Heathrow

Or tour New England. Gateway Vacations (0181 313 0501) have escorted tours, Boston weekends, and fly-drives taking in Massachusetts, New York State, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and Ontario. Pre-arranged accommodation 15-day tours from £379, not including transatlantic fares or car rental.

Prices in the Caribbean drop by as much as 30 per cent after Easter for holidays in April, May and June as the

peak season ends. Seven nights at the Montpelier Plantation Inn, on Nevis now costs £1,047 per person (a drop of £666), for B&B accommodation and return flights. Caribbean Connection: 01244 341131.

IF YOU travel between June 23 and September 3 on North Sea Ferries

(01482 371177) you will qualify for a 50 per cent reduction on the same route between September 20 and March 31 1996. A car plus two passengers travelling Hull to Zeebrugge, for instance, costs £360 including dinner and breakfast and a £152 voucher for later travel.

Stena Sealink (01233 647033) have reduced their self-drive hire holiday packages in Brittany and the Dordogne by up to 50 per cent in June and September. A week for four in Finistère starts at £149 (one week) or £248 (two weeks), including return ferry crossings on any of Stena's French routes. A converted barn for six in the Dordogne starts at £264.

Villas and apartments in Tuscany, for departures in May and June are reduced by 10 per cent from Lasciana's villas (01953 452430). A farmhouse sleeping six on the Tuscany/Umbrina border costs £420 in May, £472 in June for seven nights' accommodation and return Sally Parris Ramsgate-Dunkirk.

Leger Holidays (01709 896859) specialise in coach tours throughout Europe, with more than 300 pick-up points. Spend four nights in the Italian spa town of Fieschi, visiting Pompeii, Monte Cassino and Rome from £149 per person including travel, B&B hotel accommodation and some excursions. Departures May 7, 14, 21. Or take a 14-night tour of Prague, Vienna, Budapest and the Austrian Lakes from £499.

THE Winchester Press publishes a guide to discount flights, holidays, car hire, cruises. Price £12.95 including p&p from The Winchester Press, Hampton House, 33 Church Street, North Harrow, Middlesex. Times readers may order for £11.50 p&p on the Direct Order Line (0181 868 1375).

For advice on local conditions try the Foreign Office travel advice unit helpline (0171 270 4129 or 4179) or BBC2, Ceefax, page 564.

## End of the airport queue

A new hi-tech ticket gives a quicker check-in, says Rachael Jolley

Travel industry gurus are predicting the introduction of a new hi-tech ticket which could save airport passengers' time and tempers. This year the travel industry hopes to cure the worst excesses of the check-in queue with an electronically encoded ticket containing passenger information. The automatic ticket, issued by travel agents and airlines, has a magnetic strip on its back which allows check-in attendants to swipe the ticket through a reader machine and automatically transfer passenger details into the airline's computer.

The tickets, already in use on the Eurostar rail service, will also include a tear-off boarding pass. British travel agents and airlines are already starting to install the necessary technology and by the end of the year the 200 top

business travel agents and the largest flight-only ticket shops will use the new tickets. Tony Hughes, managing director of London-based business travel agency P&O Travel, says: "Once people start seeing the tangible benefits they will demand these tickets. Every major business agent will be using them by the middle of the year, so it will be the norm."

Mr Hughes has installed the ticket printers for the new generation of tickets at seven branches and is sending out 600 a day. British Airways has 200 ticket-reading machines at Heathrow Terminals 1 and 4, and the machines are in use at Birmingham.

Soon, passengers may be able to check themselves in using the ticket-reader machines, which might be found at railway stations such as Victoria, hotels and airport car parks. Airlines want the faster tickets so badly that some are ready to subsidise travel agents who buy the technology needed to print them. Some 200 agents have applied for the subsidy.

Alan Cruickshank, development manager at Gatwick airport, admitted that a 5 per cent month on month increase in passengers was causing problems: "Congestion is a big issue."

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THE TIMES THURSDAY APRIL 20 1995

Heathrow is determined to bring Britain's railway system right past its front doors. How does Bedfont Lakes figure in its plans?

## Sleepy hollow today, junction tomorrow

Bedfont Lakes may not be the first name to spring to mind as a vital interchange at the heart of Britain's travel and transport network. Yet, within three years, this sleepy hollow — now a small industrial estate tucked away just off the Waterloo to Staines railway line — could be transformed into an important rail terminal capable of handling millions of passengers a year and linking directly into Heathrow just two miles to the north.

It would appear that at last there is a glimmer of hope for the creation of a co-ordinated transport plan enabling both business travellers and holidaymakers to get to and from Britain's biggest airport without having to use a car. There is a long way to go before the terminal is built and, doubtless, the proposal will be fought

every inch of the way by local objectors. A delicate balancing act will have to be achieved to keep the costs of travelling by rail to the airport sufficiently low to compete with the car, and the whole problem of funding, running and staffing the station has yet to be organised.

But Heathrow is clearly embarked on a determined effort both to become part of Britain's rail web and to ease the congestion inextricably associated with its status as the world's leading international airport.

A forum made up of 12 local authorities, businessmen and airlines is looking, in addition to Bedfont Lakes, at a range of



The Travel Business  
HARVEY ELLIOTT

who work there to take to buses. Underground or car-sharing rather than use their own cars, which 78 per cent of them do at present. Not before time.

It is all in stark contrast to Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris, where the TGV long-distance trains and the RER commuter

links both spill their passengers on to bright gleaming new platforms immediately below the airport terminals. The state-owned airport is convinced that it has the policy, space and — most importantly — the will, to become the transportation hub of Europe in the next century. Rail is an integral part of its plans.

The Heathrow to Paddington high-speed rail link, meanwhile, should be completed by December 1997. But do not take a wager on it.

While Britain still cannot achieve the "feel-good" factor about its railways, people from America to the Far East are in awe of British Rail.

British Rail, the international ticket

sales organisation of BR, sells more than 250,000 tickets to tourists from 34 countries before they even leave their own country. Why can't Whitehall at least try to engender in Britain the same support for rail travel which has swept so much of the rest of the world?

The recent Department of National Heritage report, *Tourism: Competing with the best*, for example, contains not a single reference to Britain's railways. The latest Scottish Tourist Board brochure contains three pages of detailed advice on how to travel to Scotland — by air, by ferry and by train.

The only reference to rail travel is in an advertisement paid for by InterCity. No wonder the vast majority of the estimated eight million people who take a short weekend break in Britain now travel by car or by air.

At least companies such as BAA and concerned individual travellers are now talking about the railways and are beginning to formulate ideas for getting the leisure and business traveller off the roads and on to the trains.

My own suggestion is that BR's regular commuters should be awarded free Rail Miles in just the same way as the airlines award points to frequent flyers to be used for leisure trips.

If we are serious about persuading more people to holiday at home as well as attracting more foreign tourists and protecting the countryside, more must be done to boost the use of the railways — privatised or not.

## Britons head for sun

Harvey Elliott  
on new  
destinations  
announced  
yesterday

With almost two weeks to go before the official end of this winter's holiday season, Britain's tour operators will today begin taking bookings for next winter. And everyone is agreed it will be a record season, as British families head south to escape the cold.

According to most estimates, more than three million will take a foreign package between November and April next year — and they will be seeking sun rather than snow.

To find the sun, holiday-makers are prepared to travel further than ever, and long-haul holidays are expected to increase sharply. This is in marked contrast to the ski slopes, which have fallen by at least 30 per cent over the past five years.

The trend towards longer-distance holidays has led market leaders — Thomson to produce two new packages using Gatwick charter flights to Dubai and Sri Lanka.

Richard Bowden-Doyle, marketing director for Thomson, said yesterday: "Since the early 1980s people have been seeking guaranteed winter sun through such destinations as Egypt, Kenya and The Gambia. Now they are going further afield and looking for adventure as well as good prices and a good beach."

As a result, Thomson will charter entire aircraft from both Gatwick and Manchester each week to take holidaymakers to Sri Lanka at prices starting at less than £500 per



Sri Lanka is being marketed by Thomson as the new destination for winter sun-seekers on package holidays

person. A holiday in Dubai will start at less than £400.

The Canary Islands are still the single most popular winter destination, however, according to the British National Travel Survey, 34 per cent of all second holidays are taken in winter, as opposed to 14 per cent of main holidays. Over two-thirds of the people taking winter holidays are in the top "ABC" group, with almost half aged between 45 and 65, and 84 per cent married.

The trend towards a second holiday taken in the winter is now accelerating as the "feel-good" factor gradually takes hold, at least in the package holiday market. According to the British National Travel Survey, 34 per cent of all second holidays are taken in winter, as opposed to 14 per cent of main holidays. Over two-thirds of the people taking winter holidays are in the top "ABC" group, with almost half aged between 45 and 65, and 84 per cent married.

Short-haul beach holidays, mainly in the Mediterranean, accounted for 57 per cent of the total winter holiday market. The long-haul holiday sector grew almost twice as fast in the past year as short-haul holidays and made up 13.5 per cent of the total. Skiing is down by at least 8 per cent compared with last year. Some holiday companies say

that this is because fewer schools are organising ski trips. Bowden-Doyle, however, said yesterday that skiing had "gone out of fashion". "We have done a lot to try to revitalise the ski market," he says. "But the truth is that although it was the thing to be seen doing in the 1980s, it is no longer, and it has become a very expensive pastime compared with beach holidays."

One of the most important groups now taking winter holidays are those aged over 55 and many of the leading holiday companies now produce brochures aimed specifically at this "grey" market. Thomson, for example, says that its Young at Heart brochure designed to appeal to the 25 per cent of the British population now aged over 55 is doing better than ever. Airtravels says that holiday-makers booking through their "Golden Years" brochure can spend 12 weeks in Majorca

from as little as £3.80 a day. Richard Carrick, Airtravels marketing director, said: "People are now living longer in retirement and spending ever more money on holidays. Many of our Golden Years customers are people in or approaching retirement who see an ideal opportunity to visit their favourite resort when the weather at home tends to be poor. In many cases it's also cheaper."

As sterling yesterday plunged against the Deutschmark to a low of DM2.18 compared with DM2.45 last year, Germany joined Austria, France and Cyprus in the list of countries which have seen tourist numbers fall as their currencies have strengthened. France has lost up to 20 per cent of trade from Britain because of sterling's weakness against the franc.

Thomas Cook, the largest supplier of foreign currency in the world, said the boom destinations this year — America, the Caribbean, Turkey, Spain and Italy — were all countries where the exchange

## More for less

How to make the most of your holiday pound

rate was in the pound's favour.

Russell Amerasekara, a Thomas Cook spokesman, said Turkey offered outstanding value, and the number of Britons booking breaks in Florida could return to one million this season — the highest for three years.

Sterling now buys \$1.57, compared with \$1.44 for the same time last year, while in Italy — the runaway success of the Easter break — £1 is worth 2,677 lira, up from 2,354 in

1994. In Turkey, sterling is worth 65,000 lira, up from last year's figure of 46,740.

All other currencies make depressing reading for prospective travellers. The value of the pound against the yen has dropped dramatically — £1 buys only 128 yen compared with 151 last year. It buys 14.87 Austrian schillings, down from 17.19, and only Fr7.48, down from 8.37.

Since the turn of the year, it has lost 6 per cent against the Portuguese escudo, about 1 per cent against the Spanish peseta, and almost 11 per cent against the Swiss franc.

The currency swings are unlikely to signal a change in brochure prices this year. Tour operators would rather bear the costs themselves than lose bookings.

Mr Amerasekara says: "The main effect will be on how far the pound goes when holiday-makers are shopping and eating out."

MARIANNE CURPHEY

## Bonus for Bermuda

TOURISM could be the main beneficiary of the withdrawal of British, American and Canadian navies from Bermuda.

writes Steve Keenan. The withdrawal of the US Navy alone, on September 1, will free two square miles of land. There have been conflicting calls for the site to be zoned for a new, top-class hotel resort, a golf course or a film institute, to spruce up the island's conservative image.

"We need new hotels. Bermuda needs a new and different style of hotel and we think we are missing an opportunity," Gary Phillips, Bermuda's director of tourism, says.

John Harley, executive vice-president of the Bermuda Hotel Association, says: "The current thinking is that we have to become a little more lively. We do provide entertainment — but not like we used to."

Tourism still accounts for 62 per cent of Bermuda's Gross

Domestic Product. Taking over the running of the island's airport from the US Navy will also cost the Government \$17.2 million this year, half the new revenues raised in the recent Budget.

David Saul, the Finance Minister, warned of "substantial increases" to come in aircraft landing fees, while raising the departure tax from \$15 to \$20 and extending a 6 per cent hotel tax to include the entire bill.

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## Albania opens up

Inter-Continental Hotels is to open the first Western-run luxury hotel in the Albanian capital of Tirana, writes David Churchill.

The hotel chain, owned by the Japanese Saison Group, this week revealed that it intended to open the 262-room hotel, close to the city centre and the University of Tirana, early in 1997. The building will be part of a development financed by Kuwaiti conglomerate, the Kharafi Group.

Inter-Continental's move into Albania is seen as a bold step, as the country has only recently shrugged off almost 50 years of communism. But, according to Inter-Continental's European President, Mr John Wright, Albania's isolation from the international community provides an ideal opportunity in an emerging market for business travel.

While business travellers will be the prime target, Mr Wright believes that the Albanian leisure market will eventually take off.

But wooing leisure travellers to Albania will take considerable time and effort, believes Mr Nigel Harris, retail director of Thomas Cook. "Any tourism growth will depend on heavy investment in infrastructure and marketing to ensure that Britons are aware of what it has to offer," he says.

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## THE TIMES

THURSDAY APRIL 20 1995

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

BUSINESS  
TODAY

## Dollar drags pound to new low

Turbulence may force Bank  
of England to raise base rate  
after May monetary meeting

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE pound slumped to a record low against a basket of currencies yesterday, intensifying speculation that the Bank of England will push for another rise in interest rates next month.

Sterling fell to 83.6 on its effective index, undercutting the previous all-time low of 84, reached in February 1993 after the pound had been forced out of the exchange-rate mechanism. By yesterday's close, it had clawed back some ground to end at 83.9. It also hit a new record low against the German mark of DM2.190 but closed at DM2.186.

The US dollar yesterday slid to a new record low against the Japanese yen of ¥79.75 and barely recovered any ground despite repeated intervention by the Bank of Japan in Tokyo overnight. By the European close, the dollar had recovered a little to trade at ¥80.75.

The US currency fell to DM1.3528 by late European trading, close to the record low of DM1.3450 set on March 8.

The pound continues to be caught in the crossfire between a plunging dollar and the surging currencies of Germany and Japan. Traditionally, the pound has tended to move in tandem with the dollar to the frustration of the monetary authorities.

The Bank of England has been monitoring the pound's movements closely in recent weeks and has so far stayed its hand in the hope that its downward lurch would prove temporary, as stability returned to the dollar.

The minutes of the monthly monetary meeting on March 8, published yesterday, confirm that the Bank is concerned about the slide in the pound; they convinced many in the City that another rate rise will follow the next meet-

ing on May 5. Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, decided to leave interest rates unchanged at their March meeting but both expressed concern about the weakness of sterling.

Mr George argued — six weeks ago — that there was a reasonable chance that currency turbulence could abate and take the pressure off the European currencies. But he also acknowledged that strains in the exchange markets could last for some time and that "he might need to revert to the Chancellor, if the situation were to deteriorate".

It has always been understood that interest rate decisions can be taken between monetary meetings if there is a pressing need on currency

Trade widening — 14  
William Rice-Mogg — 19  
G7 pressure — 26

grounds. Mr George was clearly saying down a marker so that the Bank could act on interest rates if necessary.

Mr Clarke agreed with Mr George that the "recent weakness" in the exchange rate could, if it were to persist, be a cause for concern. At the March 8 meeting, sterling stood at 86 on its index against other major currencies but it now stands nearly 3 points lower than that. At the last meeting two weeks ago, sterling's index stood at 84.7 but, at that stage, clearly decided not to raise interest rates.

Since the start of the year sterling has fallen 5.3 per cent against the trade-weighted index, 15.8 per cent against the yen, 9.4 per cent against the mark, 7 per cent against the French franc, and is up 3.7 per

cent on the dollar. The authorities face a conundrum. On one hand, sterling's weakness threatens to exacerbate the inflationary impact of imported commodities, where prices have been rising strongly anyway. On the other, there has been clear evidence that growth in industrial production and retail sales have both been decelerating and that the consumer sector of the economy remains weak.

A picture of weakening recovery was underlined yesterday by Barclays Bank which questioned managers at 270 branches who said that personal customers had become progressively less confident since interest rates started to rise last September. Confidence among business customers remained buoyant but was rising at a slower rate than last autumn.

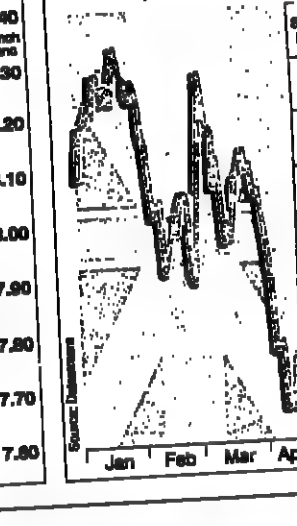
On balance, the City believes that the authorities will decide on another rise in interest rates, based not only on the weakness in the pound but increasing evidence that higher raw materials prices are feeding through into final factory gate prices.

Clair Barr, UK economist at Morgan Grenfell, said: "The latest monthly minutes reinforce our view that base rates are likely to be raised after the next monetary meeting on May 5. The authorities cannot ignore the potential boost to inflation triggered by the recent decline in sterling."

The dollar failed to gain support yesterday from figures showing a smaller than expected US trade deficit in February. The shortfall was \$9 billion against expectations of a deficit of around \$10 billion. January's deficit was revised down a little to \$11.95 billion from the \$12.2 billion previously reported.



Fistful of dollars: delight for some as the American currency continues its relentless fall against the mighty yen



STOCK MARKET INDEXES	
FT-SE 100	5170.1 (-24.4)
Yield	4.20%
FT-SE All share	1566.15 (-9.59)
Nikkei	16376.08 (+150.57)
New York	
Dow Jones	4173.25 (-5.88)
S&P Composite	503.11 (-2.25)

US RATE	
Federal Funds	5 1/4% (5 1/4%)
Long Bond	102 1/8% (102 1/8%)
Yield	7.40% (7.38%)

LONDON MONEY	
3-month Interbank	8 1/4% (8 1/4%)
Libor long gilt future (Jun)	103 1/8% (104 1/4%)

STERLING	
New York	1.8180* (1.8140)
London	
\$	1.8175 (1.8137)
DM	2.1864 (2.2026)
FF	7.7770 (7.7570)
Yen	1.0227 (1.0187)
SP	190.75 (191.23)
£ Index	83.9 (84.1)

DOLLAR	
London	
DM	1.8582* (1.8522)
FF	4.8958* (4.7650)
SP	1.1170* (1.1150)
Yen	81.08* (80.63)
£ Index	88.6 (88.9)

NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Jul)	\$18.10 (\$18.00)

GOLD	
London close	\$386.75 (\$389.50)

\* denotes midday trading price

## Undermined

Most of Britain's 10,000 remaining miners have been promised a year-end pay review in an apparent attempt to stave off industrial action. Richard Budge of RJB Mining has told his 7,300 underground employees that "encouraging" progress in output and productivity may make pay rises possible. Page 26

## Well packaged

Surging demand for paper and packaging and sharply higher product prices, helped Jefferson Smurfit, the packaging group, lift profits 39 per cent. Page 27

Amex fights back  
in the card war

BY ROBERT MILLER

AMERICAN Express yesterday attempted to counter customer and retail defections by launching a mass market credit card, Barclaycard, Europe's largest credit card provider, chose the same day to launch another two new credit cards, its first in five years.

Amex's move into the credit card market, which will be backed by a £6 million campaign, is a first for American Express which has until now stuck to its Amex chargecard held by more than 1 million people in the UK and 36 million worldwide.

The American Express credit card will be "free for life" to existing customers, if they retain their charge cards. The £20 annual fee for new customers will be waived for the first year and they may transfer balances from other cards.

Barclaycard, which estimates that about 14.5 million adults in the UK qualify for but

do not hold a credit card, yesterday launched a Sense card, with a reduced credit limit, and a Gold card.

American Express, whose charge card costs £37.50 a year, has been losing market share. Industry experts estimate that 500,000 Amex cardholders have decamped. Many retailers have also stopped accepting Amex cards because of the cost.

John Crewe, president of the consumer services group for American Express in Europe, acknowledged these problems, but said fees were now "rarely more than 1 per cent higher than those charged by Visa, Mastercard and Access".

Ian Lindsay, a director of Save & Prosper which offers a joint credit card with Robert Fleming, its merchant bank parent, company, says the Amex credit card faces a tough battle to establish itself in an already overcrowded market.

General  
Cable cuts  
float price

GENERAL CABLE was forced yesterday to cut the price of its shares, which are scheduled to begin trading on the London and Nasdaq exchanges today after investors balked at paying the forecast price (£16 Reguly writes).

General, owned by Compagnie Générale des Eaux of France, said its sales syndicate was offering the 90 million ordinary shares at 190p apiece, down significantly from their expected price of 220p to 255p. The lower price, which values the company at about £481 million, will raise £171 million before expenses compared with £198 million to £230 million under the original pricing scenario.

A GC spokesman said: "We picked up pockets of resistance to anything with the forecast price range. The US is very much a buyer's market at the moment. But at 190p, demand was proving very strong."

Banks pressed to  
give interest data

BY OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England is pressing banks for more information about the interest rates they charge their customers in a move that is likely to put them on the defensive.

The Bank is due to meet the statistics committee of the British Bankers' Association on June 9 to discuss its requirements. The move stems from the Bank's desire to understand better the way changes in base rates feed through to the rest of the financial system.

But the banks fear that this exercise will mean giving up some of their jealously-guarded privacy. "It is difficult to say no to the Bank of England if they want to publish this information," one banker said. "This is a slippery slope."

The Bank last asked banks for more information on interest charges three years ago and the banks agreed on condition that this informa-

tion was used to produce better understanding of the economy but was not published. This, according to John Ecklin, head of statistics at the BBA, remains the case.

The banks do not want average interest rate tables to be published because they fear they will be besieged by customers who are paying more than the average. They charge different interest rates according to their perceptions of risk. "A lot of customers cannot imagine they are as bad a risk as the bank thinks they are," one banker said.

Rates of interest to business customers vary from about 0.15 per cent above base rate for the best quality blue chip companies to perhaps 5 per cent or 6 per cent above base rate for small firms with poor credit track records. The Bank of England is also asking for more information on capital adequacy and derivatives.

## Medeva chief may get £9m after bid

BY MELVYN MARCUS  
CITY EDITOR

Sankey: more from less

BERNARD TAYLOR, chairman of Medeva, the pharmaceuticals group, stands to make a gross profit of more than £9 million on a series of share options if Pisons' mooted takeover terms of about 300p a share prove successful. Four co-directors could share a further £4.6 million profit, indicating a total share option bonanza of £13.85 million.

According to Medeva's 1994 accounts, Mr Taylor holds options under an "executive" and "senior" scheme relating to 5,067,465 ordinary shares with exercise prices ranging from 89p to 217p. Based on a 300p market price, Mr Taylor's potential profit would be £9.15 million. Mr Taylor's total remuneration in 1994 rose

from £364,000 to £542,000. This included fees and salaries of £386,000 and a performance-related bonus of £149,000. Mr Taylor's direct shareholding in Medeva amounts to 1,000 shares, with a further 219,967 in a non-beneficial capacity.

William Bogle, Medeva's chief executive, holds more than one million "executive" and "senior" share options with exercise prices ranging from 97p to 193p. His potential profit, based on a 300p exit price, would be in the region of £1.93 million. Mr Bogle's total remuneration last year rose from £130,000 to £379,000. His direct shareholding in Medeva embraces some 18,000 shares.

Also in the running to become a share option millionaire is co-director John Adams. His options, held through the

"US Plan" total 538,500, with exercise prices of 97p and 140p. The potential profit on these amounts to £1.07 million. Last year Mr Adams' remuneration rose from £293,000 to £404,000.

Two other board members, Dennis Millard, finance director, and Ralph Harris, stand to make potential share option profits of about £896,000 and £790,000.

□ Vernon Sankey, 45, chief executive of Reckitt & Colman saw his pay leap 25 per cent to £474,663 last year. The increase included a performance-related bonus of £123,214, up from £35,062 in 1993. The household products group's pre-tax profit for the year fell from £256.9 million to £160.2 million.

Pennington, page 27

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## Iraqi oil sales would 'not weaken prices'

dollar but doubted whether governments could do much to influence currencies in the short term. He also appeared to confirm the link between the dollar's weakness and trade difficulties by re-emphasising America's "strong" trade differences with Japan.

If action does come out of next week's G7, it could take several forms. The US could raise interest rates at the next meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee on May 23 but many analysts see this as unlikely given accumulating evidence that the US economy is slowing. Co-ordinated intervention may be an option and Japan and Germany may opt to cut interest rates again.

## Air France cuts net losses to Fr2.4bn

**AIR FRANCE**, the state-owned airline that is also a member of the ECAE billion state aid package approved by the European Union, reduced net losses to Fr2.356 billion last year from Fr8.476 billion in 1993, the company reported yesterday.

The results benefited from net exceptional gains of Fr2.472 billion from the sale of assets, including the disposal of the Meridien chain of hotels to AirParis.

The airline also gained an internal transfer of shares in the domestic Air Inter airline. If this were subtracted, the company made a net loss of Fr2.555 billion, it said.

Operating losses were cut to Fr4.32 million from Fr3.348 billion. The company said that last year it had achieved one of the highest rates of seat occupation of any European airline, rising to 73 per cent from 67.8 per cent in 1993. The rate of capacity utilisation rose to 67.8 per cent from 60.3 per cent.

However, most of the increase in passenger traffic was achieved through a reduction of fares. Income per passenger kilometre had fallen by 9.9 per cent and income per freight kilometre had fallen by 5.5 per cent.

The core airline business alone, excluding contributions from subsidiaries, incurred a net loss of Fr2.6 billion in 1994, reduced from a loss of Fr7.814 billion in 1993.

In 1994, Air France received an injection of cash amounting to Fr18.18 billion from the state. This enabled the company borrowings to be reduced to Fr27 billion from Fr33.6 billion.

The company had been promised Fr10 billion of aid in 1993, but received the final instalment of that amount, a sum of Fr1.8 billion, only at the end of 1995.

The number of people employed was cut to 37,4129 from 39,916 in 1993.

## PolyGram forms Asian satellite group with MTV

**BY MARTIN WALLER**

**DECADENT** Western pop music, spearheaded by the likes of Bon Jovi, Bryan Adams and U2, is set to pierce the bamboo curtain and target the young and trendy in downtown Peking — but only if they can lay their hands on a satellite receiver.

PolyGram, the London-quoted music and film producer majority-owned by the Dutch electronics group Philips, is going into partnership

be launched on May 5. But this Friday marks the start of the Chinese-language MTV Mandarin, originating out of Singapore and described as "tailored to the musical tastes, lifestyle and sensibilities of young people in Asia's Chinese market".

PolyGram's contribution in the venture, in which it will hold a 50 per cent stake, is to provide the music videos out of its huge roster of artists. As

## **IATA predicts growth**

THE International Air Transport Association (IATA), celebrating its 50th anniversary, yesterday predicted huge growth, generating many more jobs in the civil aviation industry over the next decade. IATA also said it was probable figures to be issued next week would confirm its 230 member airlines in 135 countries in 1994 made their first profit — about \$1 billion — after five years of recession and gradual recovery. Pierre Jeannerot, the director-general, said IATA companies carried 1,200 million passengers and about 19 million tonnes of freight.

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	Share	Div	Div
Australia \$	1.23	3	3
Austria Sch	64.38	3	3
Belgium F	24.00	2	2
Canada Cdn	2.379	2	2
Cyprus Cyp	6.747	8	8
Denmark Dkr	1.00	9	9
France Ffr	7.36	9	9
Germany DM	3.20	9	9
Greece P	\$14.00	3	3
Italy Lit	2.00	3	3
Japan Y	1.92	0	0
Netherlands	5.52	3	3
Portugal Esc	240.00	2000	2000
Spain Ptas	548.00	128	128
Sweden Kr	2.00	3	3
Switzerland	9.43	3	3
U.K. £	2.00	3	3
U.S. \$	1.00	1	1
Yugoslavia D	2.00	3	3

Shares for all listed companies are listed only as supplied by Barclays Bank plc. Dividend rates are shown in local currency. Dividend rates apply to transfers of shares.

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### Kodak takes right image for profit

**DANIEL KIDMAN** says he expects sales for the new line in the first quarter to be in the neighborhood of \$10 million. The company reported a 90 cent jump in the second quarter to \$86 million for the January-March period, up 40 per cent from the same quarter in 1972. The company's mainstay operation is \$100 million in 1973. The company has no debt, but its earnings for the first quarter were \$2.6 million, or 87 cents a share, compared with \$2.2 million, or 75 cents a share, in the same quarter in 1972. The volume was comparable to the overall rise in the quarter in the \$14 billion company's 1973. The rise in the first quarter, says Ferner, was due to the chairman's "strong" currency effect. The company's first quarter was due to volume growth, not to currency effects. The company's first quarter was due to volume growth, not to currency effects. The company's first quarter was due to volume growth, not to currency effects.



Public clamour prevents executive excess □ The shrinking deficit dismissed □ What price the superhighway?

## The club of greed and ego

THE annual report season is with us, and every day brings another despatch from the executive pay front from the Greenbury Committee, to ruminate on. Yesterday saw two more FT-SE 100 have their directors' darkest secrets to the investing public.

Veronica Sankey, the chief executive of Reckitt & Colman, saw her pay packet swell by 25 per cent to £475,000 last year despite watching the profits of his group shrink by 38 per cent. Meanwhile at Guinness, chairman Tony Greener received £704,000, up 9 per cent, while the group increased its profits 5 per cent.

These two examples show just what a large and hairy monster it is that Sir Richard Greenbury and friends are trying to tackle. Mr Sankey no doubt feels he earned his extra groats in a year when Reckitt's underlying profits actually rose 5 per cent and he organised the £1 billion acquisition of Eastman Kodak's E&F Household. So his remuneration committee seems to have thought, since most of his pay increase came in his personal bonus.

But Reckitt is less than a third the size of Guinness, so logic suggests that Mr Sankey should earn less than a third as much as Mr Greener. Instead he earns more than two-thirds of the amount. Besides, Mr Greener was for most of the year doing

three jobs, that of chairman, chief executive and head of the spirits division, which makes him look relatively more underpaid or Mr Sankey over-rewarded.

Any survey of executive pay shows that logic never penetrates this exclusive club of greed and ego. There is little or no relationship between the size of a company and the size of its directors' pay packets. Nor is there much of a relationship between the success of a company and its generosity to its leaders, except perhaps an inverse one.

The best-paid executives in Britain tend to be those that can lay a tenuous claim to American status, so that they are compared with a peer group in the US, who are without exception astonishingly well-rewarded. Thus it is John Tugwell, the head of NatWest-Bancorp in New Jersey, not his boss, Derek Wanless or Lord Alexander, who is the best-paid employee of National Westminster. When British firms find themselves forced to employ a US citizen to sort out their troubles, they find themselves

paying through the nose for the pleasure. The only means that the investing public has of restraining executive pay is to embarrass company chiefs into modesty and self-restraint. In that respect the Greenbury Committee has fulfilled its main objective. The barrage of publicity the subject has received will make any company think twice before bestowing over-generous rewards on its top directors, and that should be more of an obstacle than any Greenbury guidelines. Next year's crop of annual reports will reveal just how sensitive company directors are to public sentiment.

### Trade, not aid for the dollar

WALL STREETERS are doing little to aid their sagging reserve currency. Faced with a February trade gap \$1 billion less than predicted and \$2 billion less than January's, analysts could have hailed a new dawn in America's trade. They could have argued that the dollar's decline had finally turned the



tide, boosting exports and curbing imports to the country's still-booming economy. They could have pointed to the widening farm trade surplus, to the fourth monthly drop in the bilateral deficit with Japan or to the downward revision of the January deficit. They did not.

Instead, the reactions reflected ingrained gloom, keenness to justify mistaken predictions and, just possibly, a desire to back short positions on the dollar. The February figures were dismissed as an exception to regular \$10-billion-a-month deficit. Irregular aircraft sales accounted for half the rise in exports. The deficit with Japan was higher than a year ago.

Yet the impact of devaluation

cannot be dismissed. America's trade with Mexico made a deficit of \$2.1 billion in the first two months of this year against a surplus of \$370 million last year. That is down to excessive devaluation of the peso.

Few Americans really think the dollar needs to fall further to make US goods competitive. Much of the deficit is cyclical, or due to the efforts of the Kirk Kerkorian of the 1980s to denude industry of resources. Rather, they do not care about the deficit or the dollar. If they did, they would have to raise interest rates, risk killing a mature boom and do nasty things to asset prices. So long as they do not care, unstable currency markets are a Japanese and European problem. In the 1980s, when America joined in the Plaza and Louvre accords, the problem was an over-buoyant dollar, which could be helped by lower US taxes, higher growth and more jobs.

In repeating his call for coordination to still the foreign exchanges, the IMF's Michel Camdessus therefore faces a battle against political expedi-

ency in Washington next week. If that leads to a bias towards growth, however, it may be no bad thing.

### Cable in a knot

THE fledgling cable TV sector, the recipient of so many hopes over the past few months, is in trouble again. The slide in the share price of TeleWest could not have come at a worse time for those who had planned to be second and third into the market, General Cable and Nynex.

The market is having some difficulty in disentangling the causes of that share price collapse and the resulting woes of General Cable. There have certainly been too many cable flotations, both actual and planned, and the last one in the US, Videotron on Nasdaq, was a disaster. Videotron was marketed in a price range of \$18.50 to \$20, the range was then cut to \$17.50-\$18.50 and the auctioneer's hammer finally came down at \$17.05.

But the investor resistance,

especially in the US, that has hit General Cable and sent the advisers to Nynex into a worried huddle may be more deep-seated than that. Cable was to have created a whole new sector of the London stock market and a fashionable one to boot, the whole Internet and Information Superhighway buzz transferred from the lifestyle to the business pages and made flesh for investors to buy into. But the concern is now whether the great British public, as opposed to those that claim to form their opinions for them, is keen on having quite so many more TV channels to interact with. American investors, used to take-up rates that put cable into three households for every five offered it, took fright at market penetration of just 20 per cent that was being achieved in Britain and churn rates of 50 per cent, which translates into a business losing half its customers a year.

In addition, there was a residual concern in London over the discounted cash-flow multiples used to buttress the cable flotations second time around, after a couple had already stumbled last year. It was, therefore, probably not very tactful last week of Eurotunnel, subject to a similar financial model, to expose its scars again quite so publicly and so close to the cable companies' marketing campaigns.

### Pearson to move FT printing

PEARSON, the international media conglomerate, is to take a £33 million exceptional charge this year after a radical reorganisation of its printing arrangements for the Financial Times in the UK (Susan Gilchrist writes).

The group is moving production from its existing East India Dock site in London to West Ferry Printers, a joint venture between the printers for the Telegraph and Express newspaper groups. Up to 150 jobs could be lost.

Pearson said the move would improve profitability of the Financial Times and enable it to take advantage of recent advances in printing technology. John Williamson, managing director of the Financial Times, said continued ownership of a dedicated London printing plant would hold back the newspaper's development given the likelihood of further consolidation in the industry and advances in technology. "In taking this decision we are looking well beyond the current price war and surge in newspaper prices," he said.

Some £5 million of the £33 million exceptional charge is to cover redundancy costs while the remainder relates to a write-down of fixed assets. The reorganisation is expected to generate annual cost savings of £6 million.

The Financial Times has an average daily circulation of about 290,000. Last year it made operating profits of £18.9 million, a 55 per cent rise on 1993. *Times*, page 28

### Kodak takes right image for profit

EASTMAN KODAK said its imaging sales led to huge leap in first-quarter profits, confirming the management's strategy of concentrating on its core business (Sean Mac Carthaigh writes from New York).

The company reported a 47 per cent jump in US consumer imaging sales to \$486 million for the January to March period, and a 48 per cent rise in US consumer imaging operating profits to \$152 million. Net earnings for the quarter were \$262 million, or 77 cents a share, compared to \$82 million, or 25 cents per share, last time.

Unit volumes were central to an overall rise in sales for the quarter to \$3.14 billion, compared with \$2.76 billion in the 1994 period, said George Fisher, the chairman. "Although currency effects boosted sales, most of this growth was due to volume increases resulting from good demand for traditional photographic products, led by sales of Kodacolor films and Kodacolor papers."

Mr Fisher said earnings also benefited from lower interest expense, higher than normal interest income and improved cost management and productivity.

Demand for company's products is expected to remain strong

## Surge in packaging boosts Smurfit

BY SARAH BAGNALL

A SURGE in demand for paper and packaging products on the back of the worldwide economic recovery, together with sharply higher product prices, helped Jefferson Smurfit, the Irish packaging group, to report annual profits of 39 per cent.

The rise took profits before tax and exceptional items to £118.3 million in the 11 months to December 31, including a net exceptional profit of £198.3 million, compared with a net loss of £137.6 million last time, profits rose to a record £137.1 million. This compares to a profit of £142.5 million in the year to January 31.

Jefferson Smurfit produces more than seven million tonnes of paper and board a year and is the world's biggest producer of containerboard, corrugated containers and folding cartons, as well as the largest collector of waste paper.

Profits were boosted by a first-time contribution from Cellulose du Pin, the French company bought last year, and Netingsdorfer, the German company in which Smurfit has bought a stake. Together they contributed £18.9 million to operating profits. The company was hit by the devaluation of the Mexican peso in December.

Dermot Smurfit, joint deputy chairman, said: "With the strong demand and continuing price appreciation fore-

cast for the paper sector we are optimistic about the future of the group."

The final dividend rose 42 per cent from 2.77p to 3.93p, making a total for the year of 5.33p (4p). The dividend, due June 30, is being paid out of pre-exceptional earnings of 16.7p a share, up from 12.2p last time.

Mr Smurfit said the increase "is giving as strong a message as we can of the board's confidence in the future."

As economic recovery continues, demand for the group's products is expected to remain strong. Total world consumption of paper and board is forecast to grow by about 20 per cent — or 60 million tonnes — by 2000. Mr Smurfit expects an explosion in demand in the Far East, where demand for corrugated case materials is forecast to double over the next seven years. Europe and the Americas are expected to grow at up to four per cent a year.

Geographically, the company has a strong presence in Ireland and the UK, Continental Europe, Latin America and the US. Mr Smurfit said the group intends to expand into the Far East and was looking at investing in some Eastern European countries. The shares remained unchanged at 359p.

*Times*, page 28  
*City Diary*, page 29



Dermot Smurfit says the dividend shows the board's confidence in the future

## USAir cuts loss in first quarter

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN NEW YORK

USAIR, British Airways' troubled American partner, reported reduced first quarter losses yesterday, indicating that at least the airline is moving in the direction of profitability. The company lost \$118 million, or \$1.91 per share, after payment of preferred dividends in the three months to the end of March. Last year, over the same period, USAir lost \$216 million, or \$3.64 per share. Despite the improvement, the firm reported that its revenues had slipped from \$1.76 billion to \$1.69 billion.

"Everyone in this company has been intensely focused on the dual goals of cutting costs and improving service, and the results from the first quarter show that these efforts are taking hold," said Seth Schofield, USAir's chairman and chief executive.

The company said passenger revenues for March were the highest in its history. Mr Schofield said USAir ended the first quarter with cash in excess of \$400 million and, barring unforeseen circum-

stances, expects to end the year with at least that amount.

In January, USAir announced it would cut 10 per cent of its flights to save money. Talks with staff to improve efficiency continue this month and executives say the company must cut annual costs by \$1 billion to survive.

Last month, details of a new cost-cutting proposal emerged from closed meetings between management and USAir pilots. Although the deal is being kept secret until it is approved by other unions, it centres on a 20 per cent stake of the company and seats on the board for employees in exchange for wage concessions. "The cost reduction and revenue enhancement efforts are continuing. We are making progress toward the \$1 billion solution to make USAir a cost-competitive airline," Mr Schofield said yesterday.

Last week, the firm's auditor, KPMG Peat Marwick, said that time was running out for the carrier.

*Times*, page 29

## AT&T rises in first quarter

AT&T, the communications group, reported a 12 per cent increase in profits for the first quarter, while MCI Communications, its rival, registered double-digit growth in both income and revenues.

AT&T earnings rose to \$1.2 billion, or 76 cents a share, from \$1.1 billion, or 69 cents a share, a year ago, mainly because of strong product sales and increased revenues from its long-distance and wireless service units.

MCI said its net income had increased 16.7 per cent to \$244 million, or 36 cents a share, while revenues were up 10.6 per cent to \$3.6 billion.

AT&T said that it restated previously financial results to include the recently acquired McCaw Cellular Communications.

Robert Allen, the chairman of AT&T, said that the company would continue to target earnings growth of at least 10 per cent on an annual basis.

## PPI assets were offered to Nadir

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

ADMINISTRATORS of the collapsed Polly Peck International (PPI), desperate to try to sell the company's troublesome assets in northern Cyprus, at one point offered them to Asil Nadir, the fugitive former head of PPI.

The unsuccessful approach was disclosed yesterday by Chris Barlow, of Coopers & Lybrand, the administrators, in response to inquiries about persistent rumours in Nicosia that Learned Ltd, the company that last month bought the bulk of PPI assets in northern Cyprus was a front for Mr Nadir.

Elmas Guzeyurtlu, the Turkish Cypriot businessman who on March 24 signed an agreement with Coopers & Lybrand transferring shares in a number of PPI businesses to Learned, yesterday rejected as "complete nonsense" any suggestion that Mr Nadir was behind Learned.

Speaking from Nicosia, he said he had "started to have a good dialogue" with Mr Nadir, as he saw no reason for a conflict. Mr Guzeyurtlu's

Nicosia bank was bombed by unknown assailants on New Year's Eve after it emerged that he was bidding for PPI assets in northern Cyprus.

Mr Nadir, who jumped £3.5 million bail in England in 1993 and fled to his native northern Cyprus is charged with theft involving £34 million. But he is not wanted in northern Cyprus, which has no extradition treaty with Britain.

The amount Learned paid the administrators has not been disclosed by either side, but it is understood that Mr Guzeyurtlu agreed to pay \$7 million, the bulk of which is in cash, and take on \$9 million of PPI's local debts. The local PPI portfolio had a book value of around £50 million.

Mr Barlow said the administrators had accepted a "fair" offer. He said the administrators knew that Learned was an off-the-shelf company with no substantial assets. "We have in the past suggested to Nadir that he make an offer," Mr Barlow said, adding however that the administrators had had no response from him.

## Ford accelerates to earn \$1.55bn in first quarter

FROM SEAN MAC CARTHAIGH IN NEW YORK

FORD's first quarter earnings touched \$1.55 billion, up from \$904 million for the 1994 period, but some analysts were disappointed with the company's US car sales. In Europe, where Ford's operations include Jaguar, the group reported earnings of \$165 million, up from \$112 million last year.

"This was another strong quarter," said Alex Trotman, Ford's British-born chairman and chief executive. "It marked the ninth consecutive quarter of year-over-year improvement for the total company as well as for our automotive operations."

Worldwide sales and revenues were for the company were \$34.8 billion, compared with \$30.4 billion in the year ago period. On a per share basis, Ford earned \$1.44 against 88 cents for January to March 1994. Last year's results include a \$440 million charge for the sale of First Nationwide Bank.

Mr Trotman said that Ford would continue to invest in new products, linking this strategy to improved market

shares in many regions of the world. Ford's truck business in the US was expanding rapidly, he added.

"We continued moving forward in Europe, with higher shares for both Fiesta and Scorpio. And we achieved a 12.5 per cent combined car and truck share in Europe, which was the best since 1983," Mr Trotman said.

Jack Kerman, an auto industry specialist at Salomon Brothers, said he had expected better figures from America's second largest car manufacturer: "The composition of earnings was relatively poor with a weaker contribution from Ford's auto business, particularly in the US."

There was some near-term weakening of industry vehicle sales in North America, but Ford was still able to achieve good overall results," Mr Trotman said in the report.

Ford, which along with General Motors and Chrysler announced record annual profits in January, is currently restructuring. It is merging some North American and European operations.

## Albright meets profit target

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

ALBRIGHT & WILSON, the chemical company spun off from its US parent earlier this year, yesterday confirmed the profit estimates made in its flotation prospectus and said trading in the current year was in line with expectations.

The group made pre-tax profits of £40.7 million in the year to December 25 compared with £38.3 million in the previous period, exactly in line with its flotation forecast.

Profits at the group, which makes ingredients for a host of household and food products including shampoo, toothpaste and Coca-Cola, were depressed by £20.2 million of exceptional items.

These included £6.8 million relating to the restructuring of some of its European businesses, a £9.8 million increase

in its provision for environmental clean-up costs and £3.7 million to cover exchange losses at the group's recently-acquired Mexican joint venture following the devaluation of the peso. Excluding these one-off charges, underlying profits rose by 11 per cent.

The group is looking to drive profits by introducing new products and expanding further internationally. By 1998, it says, a fifth of turnover will come from products launched within the past five years compared with 14 per cent currently.

Robin Paul, chief executive, said continuing weakness in Europe had been offset by a strong contribution from North America.

*Times*, page 28

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# THE TIMES CITY DIARY

## Felt collars all round

CITY firms will see more of the boys in blue, if George Staple, Director-General of the Serious Fraud Office, and the gang at Elm House have any say in the matter. The SFO recently "raided" a bank and an accountancy firm on behalf of the Argentine authorities. The lawyer reports, and the SFO is poised to step up its activities on behalf of foreign governments, after a widening of its Section Two powers. Under an extension granted in February, the SFO is able to use the powers — that give it the right to demand access to documents and information — to assist inquiries from abroad, provided the initial request comes via the Home Secretary. The Argentines needed help obtaining documents relating to the BCCI collapse — hence the "impromptu" visit to an (unnamed) London bank and the offices of Touche Ross, BCCI's liquidator. A raid on a US bank is said to be imminent.

## Irish luck

JEFFERSON SMURFIT, the Irish paper and packaging group, is sore with the Stock Exchange. Despite having the critical mass to warrant a place in the FTSE 100, it is excluded on grounds of being registered in the Republic of Ireland. Under Stock Exchange rules, a company must be UK-registered to qualify — a requirement the exchange admits is at odds with itself, as it quotes UK and Irish shares.

EDSON MITCHELL, 41, who on Tuesday said goodbye to Merrill Lynch — he had been there 15 years and was co-head of global fixed income — joins Deutsche Bank on May 1 as world head of global markets, based in London.



"That reminds me — how goes the pound today?"

## Bristol-bound

ROBERT WALTHER, 30 years with Chemical Medicines, will be treading new ground with his appointment as group chief executive after the retirement of Roger Corley. Walther is to forsake London and live in Bristol, so he can be nearer head office. And he intends a daily jog to work to shed the gathering inches from attending an increasing number of corporate dinners. "If he does jog on a daily basis, he'll do wonders for Bristol's traffic congestion", a colleague said.

## Plaza suite

AFTER the attack by the IMF's Michel Camdessus on America's failure to defend the dollar, another European is giving subtle hints that he favours coordinated action by governments to calm the foreign exchanges. This seemingly unlikely interventionist is Kenneth Clarke. The Chancellor has chosen to speak to the press before next week's G7 meeting in the Louvre suite at New York's Plaza hotel, a venue linking the names of the two famous accords of the 1980s, when dollar strength was the world's problem. The message is clear.

COLIN CAMPBELL

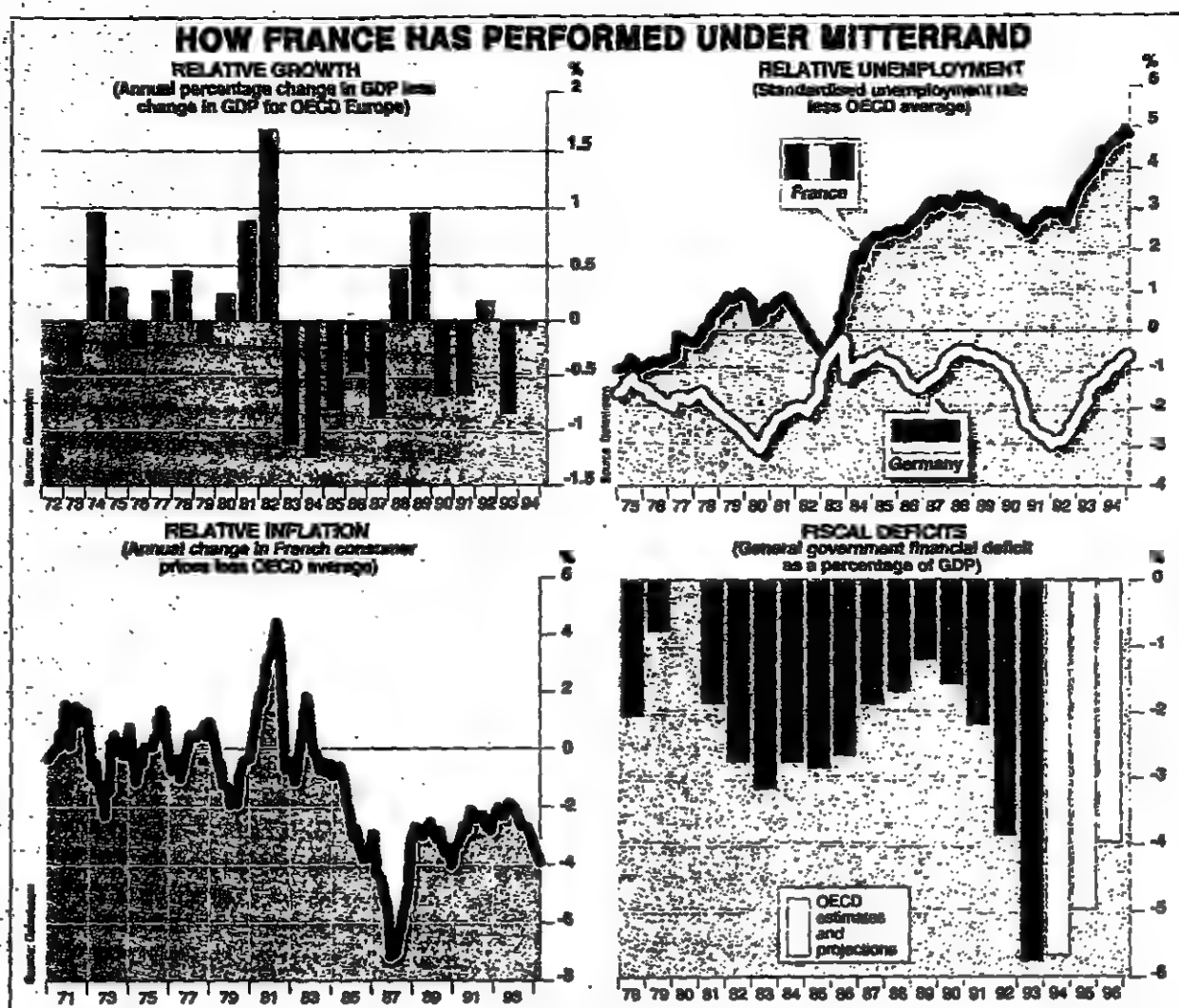
## If the new President wants franc fort he must abandon Maastricht and EMU

The presidential election to be held on Sunday in France will offer the opportunity for a new beginning, not only for France but for the whole of Europe. The 14-year presidency of François Mitterrand should go down in history as the most depressing period for France since Vichy. But if the next President, most probably Jacques Chirac, draws the right lessons from his predecessor's failure, France could easily re-emerge in the next few years as an economic powerhouse and a source of inspiration to other countries in Europe and beyond. This was a role it was well on its way to wrestling from Germany, when M. Mitterrand panicked in response to a minor currency crisis in 1982 and set his country on a course of permanent economic subjugation to Germany.

The economic stakes are high in this election not only for France, but for the world as a whole. France has always enjoyed a disproportionate influence in global institutions such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Group of Seven leading industrial nations; not to mention the European Commission in Brussels. Suppose economic philosophy were now to change in Paris in favour of Keynesian demand management and a serious assault on unemployment, instead of the deflationary monetary "rigour" and pre-Keynesian structuralism that have been in vogue since M. Mitterrand's U-turn in 1983. This would have an immediate effect on all the institutions that form global consensus opinion, many of which have long been run by Frenchmen with a primary loyalty to Paris, to the chagrin of other members of the European Union, the International Monetary Fund and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

French economic policy is likely to be transformed for two fundamental reasons. In the long term, there is bound to be change because no nation is likely to acquiesce forever in its own economic destruction. France obviously has the capacity to do so much better than it has been, that the contradiction between potential and achievement will finally become insupportable. And even if it does not, there is a more immediate reason for expecting a policy U-turn. Within the next year or so, the four elements of the French policy consensus will start moving in opposite directions, creating a logical contradiction which all the "clever" and "will" in the world simply cannot resolve.

To start with the long-term issues, it is simply untrue, as some market analysts still



lambly suggest, that the French economy has "sound fundamentals". It is even more implausible to suggest that its performance has improved since the 1970s. France may have a current account surplus and the lowest inflation in Europe, but these have only been achieved at the cost of the highest unemployment among the G7 countries and extremely low economic growth. While a temporary increase in unemployment and a loss of growth may be justified to subdue inflation, France has been unique among the G7 countries in accepting very high unemployment as a permanent principle of policy. Of course, a country that accepts permanent stagnation can have low inflation and a trade surplus. But what is the point? This is a question which the French Enarque, for all their elite education and patriotism never seem to have asked.

The charts give an inkling of France's strange experience. The top two show that until 1983, when M. Mitterrand decided to subordinate French policy to the franc-mark exchange rate, France typically had an unemployment rate close to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development average and an economic growth rate well ahead of the rest of Europe. From 1983 onwards, GDP growth in France fell more or less permanently below Europe's. Unemployment shot upwards and never again declined — unlike Germany, or for that matter British or American, unemployment which rose and fell during the 1980s and 1990s in a cyclical pattern.

The third chart raises the question of why all this sacrifice was considered worthwhile. It shows that the French inflation rate was neither par-

ticularly high nor unstable before M. Mitterrand embarked on his policy of "franc fort". But what if, in spite of all the evidence, the French stick to their Freudian delusion that a strong currency is some kind of national virility symbol? The currency totem has, after all, been a fixed point of French psychology throughout this century. (It was largely responsible for such earlier historic disasters as the refusal to take the franc off the gold standard and the consequent collapse of French industry just when France should have been rearming for the Second World War.) Even if the new President decides to continue sacrificing his country on the altar of the franc-mark exchange rate, economic circumstances will probably conspire to make this impossible.

Up until now, the French Government has been able to soften the impact of German monetary policies by offering extremely generous tax breaks and fiscal subsidies to businesses and the public. These have ranged from straightforward hand-outs such as cash payments from the Treasury to anyone who bought a new car, to much more complex and even bigger arrangements made to subsidise banks and nationalised industries and underwrite exports.

In future, however, these bailouts will become impossible. They will not be stopped by European Union regulations or even by increased French taxpayers, but by the Maastricht convergence targets that France itself agreed with Germany in the negotiations on European monetary union.

Just like Britain, Italy, Swe-

den Spain and many other European countries which tried to peg their currencies inappropriately to the mark, France has paid for its mistake not only with high unemployment and lost output, but also with a swelling budget deficit and a build-up of public debt. The payments made so far to enable the French economy to live with the franc fort have swollen the Government deficit from 1.2 per cent of GDP in 1992 to more than 5 per cent this year. Part of this deterioration was due to the cyclical decline in the economy, but according to Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development figures the "structural" part of the deficit has swollen almost as sharply, from 0.7 per cent of GDP in 1987 to 3.7 per cent this year.

These figures now make it impossible for France to meet the Maastricht convergence targets without a major fiscal retrenchment. The deficit will have to be cut to 3 per cent of GDP by 1997-98, when the decision is made whether to go ahead with European monetary union on the targeted date of January 1999. And because 1996 is no longer a feasible date for the decision on European monetary union, the cut in the French budget deficits must be sustained over a considerable period. It cannot be achieved by accounting tricks for just a single year.

This means that a French Government which wants to be taken seriously in its commitment to European monetary union will have to tighten fiscal policy substantially in the next two years. Instead of offsetting the monetary stringency demanded by the franc fort, the new fiscal policy will have to redouble the rigour — and this in itself is likely to intensify speculation in the financial markets against the

franc. In other words, if the new President wants franc fort he must abandon the Maastricht targets and European monetary union. If he wants Maastricht, he must abandon franc fort.

Faced with this Catch 22, M. Chirac will have only one rational choice if he is elected. He must "look at the books" left behind by his predecessor and "discover" that the economic situation is much worse than the Government had ever acknowledged. He must then tighten fiscal policy, but offset higher taxes with sharp cuts in interest rates. This would mean abandoning the franc fort but it would produce a dramatic improvement in unemployment. And what if French pride is offended by transforming the franc fort into a franc faible? President Chirac can always blame Mitterrand and Balladur — but only if he acts fast.

## Spotlight falls on Greenbury Committee

Philip Bassett assesses the progress of the inquiry into top executives' pay

The attack by Sir Richard Greenbury, the chairman of Marks & Spencer, on the salary rises of some privatised utility bosses as "disgraceful", revealed by *The Times* yesterday, gave a rare insight into the workings of the Government-backed inquiry he is heading into boardroom pay.

His forceful criticisms, couched in language described as "robust", were made in private to MPs during a closed session of the all-party Commons Employment Select Committee, which is conducting its own inquiry into utility bosses' pay and benefits packages.

Though the parade of utility executives having humbly to declare to the Commons committee every last detail of their earnings is now over, the potent problem of high boardroom pay is far from resolved. Sir Richard's committee, set up by the Confederation of British Industry at the request of the Prime Minister, is now seen as the principal means of launching the top pay boil.

Sir Richard has said little or nothing about the inquiry since it was established in January. But his appearance before MPs even in a closed session, has lifted the veil a little.

The £691,000-a-year M&S chairman revealed to the committee that the inquiry has now set up four sub-groups, all of which give an indication of the inquiry's thinking and progress.

The first is examining the role of remuneration committees, which are now widely used to set senior executives' pay. It is also looking at the role of shareholders, and seems likely to recommend a greater role for them.

The second is considering the practices and problems of disclosure — how much shareholders, and the public, are and should be told about what directors are paid. It looks likely to favour the fullest transparency, in line with British Gas's change of heart after the row over the 75 per cent increase for Cedric Brown, its chief executive, which fuelled the boardroom pay row. In its recent annual report, British Gas gave full details of all board members' pay, benefits and pensions packages for the first time.

The work of the third group includes the embarrassing issue of payment for failure: severance packages that companies agree for executives who are judged to have performed badly, but whose rolling contracts, usually three-year ones, can be manipulated to provide large pay-offs in cash and shares. The inquiry looks set to recommend that such practices are ended.

Finally, the fourth group is looking at pay itself: what top corporate executives do and should get. It is examining four key areas — basic pay, bonuses, share options and the particular role of the privatised utilities.

Though its establishment was prompted by the row over privatised utility pay, the Greenbury inquiry has been uneasy about this aspect of its work, and has tried to distance itself from it, knowing there is little it can recommend to solve the problem of high pay levels and increases. But Sir Richard's remarks to the Select Committee accurately reflect annoyance in the inquiry, and much more widely in industry, that the actions of some utility bosses in grabbing too much too greedily have caused real difficulties over pay for executives in companies which neither warrant them nor have the near-monopolies enjoyed by many utilities.

According to MPs' views of his account of his work, Greenbury looks set to avoid recommending new legislation on top pay if at all possible, preferring instead to rely on more stringent self-regulation. Inquiry members see the Prime Minister's commitment to introducing new law as giving them teeth which they will not need to use.

For the inquiry, that may be fine. Politically, it is unlikely to be sufficient. Having been publicly seen to have promised legislation, the Prime Minister will have real difficulty in not delivering it, even if Greenbury does not recommend it. One way or another, the ball of top corporate pay looks likely to be landed squarely back in the Government's court.

They will have teeth which they will not need to use

## Colin Narbrough reports on a German firm's change of direction

## Merck takes a stake in the big league

Edward Roberts, a rugby-loving Welsh veteran of the international pharmaceuticals business, is playing a key role in the transformation of E. Merck, the German drugs company that this year aims to bring in outside investors after 326 years of family control. Merck, of Darmstadt, is small compared with Bayer, BASF and Hoechst, its listed German rivals. But its plan to raise up to DM2.5 billion through the sale of 25 per cent of the company puts it in the new-issue big league and better positions it for the industry's global shakeout.

With DM15 billion of Deutsche Telekom shares to hit the market next year, Merck has to move quickly to ensure it has the means to pursue costly, strategic plans. The Merck issue, much of which is aimed at UK funds, will be the biggest new German issue since the mid-Eighties.

Mr Roberts, 60, a trained pharmacist from Rhyl, Clwyd, spent 17 years in Europe and America with Eli Lilly, the American pharmaceuticals group, and headed the agribusiness division there, before switching in 1990 to Merck, where he heads pharmaceuticals.

The change of country and corporate culture appears to have caused few problems for him. He said he never had



Roberts: felt no clash of culture

the feeling he was being kept out of the inner sanctums of a family firm, where Hans Joachim Langemann has been chairman for 31 years.

Although he spoke German from a previous European posting, Mr Roberts said he found the first few months of board meetings at Darmstadt in German only, made him a "great listener". Subsequently, he was given every freedom to communicate his ideas.

As an example of the "good common

sense" that he sees guiding cross-border business today, he cites the fact that English has already become the language of general management in Merck's pharmaceutical and research divisions.

Unlike Bayer, which last year re-acquired its brand name in North America after a 70 year gap, Merck has no ties with Merck and Co Inc, the US company that was affiliated until confiscation in the First World War.

Mr Roberts' career has prepared him well for the North American pharmaceuticals acquisitions Merck has its eyes on. It is keen to remain a strong niche player and has no intention to "bet the farm" by huge spending on research.

Merck, Germany's fifth biggest drugs company, raised pre-tax profit 40 per cent last year to DM560 million on sales of DM5.3 billion. This year, it paid Fr1.5 billion to Rhône-Poulenc of France for the 43 per cent it did not own in Lipha, the Lyons drugs group. Last year, it paid \$200 million for 51 per cent of Amerpharm, the US generic drug company. Mr Roberts, a rare Celtic bird on a German board, said Merck still needs a bigger market share in cheaper versions of brand-name drugs in North America, to be met by buying companies or products.

## SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND AND LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 181st Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Society will be held at the Head Office, 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh on Tuesday, 2nd May 1995 at 2.30 pm for the following purposes:

- To consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December 1994 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.
- To re-elect Mr G J N Gemmell, Mr G R G Graham and Mr A J Low as Directors.
- To fix the remuneration of Directors.
- To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors.
- To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors for the current year.
- To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General Meeting.

Forms of Proxy for the use of Members of the Society who are unable to be present at the Meeting, but who may wish to vote, may be obtained on application to the undersigned. To be effective Proxies must reach the Society's Head Office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the Meeting. A proxy need not be a Member of the Society.

Questions may be submitted in advance from Members who themselves or through their Proxy intend to be present at the Meeting. These should be in writing and lodged with the undersigned not less than four clear working days before the Meeting.

HW RAYMOND  
Executive Board Director Corporate Services and Secretary  
15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh, EH16 5BU

4 April 1995



THE TIMES THURSDAY APRIL 20 1995

CHEMICALS



# Share losses across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS			
Barclays Bank	125.00	+0.25	0.8
Bank of Scotland	110.00	+0.10	0.7
Bank of Ireland	105.00	+0.15	0.6
Bank of Wales	100.00	+0.10	0.5
Bank of England	95.00	+0.05	0.4
Bank of America	90.00	+0.05	0.3
Bank of Montreal	85.00	+0.05	0.2
Bank of Nova Scotia	80.00	+0.05	0.1
Bank of Toronto	75.00	+0.05	0.0
Bank of Victoria	70.00	+0.05	-0.1
Bank of New Zealand	65.00	+0.05	-0.2
Bank of South Africa	60.00	+0.05	-0.3
Bank of Australia	55.00	+0.05	-0.4
Bank of China	50.00	+0.05	-0.5
Bank of Japan	45.00	+0.05	-0.6
Bank of Korea	40.00	+0.05	-0.7
Bank of India	35.00	+0.05	-0.8
Bank of Pakistan	30.00	+0.05	-0.9
Bank of Bangladesh	25.00	+0.05	-1.0
Bank of Sri Lanka	20.00	+0.05	-1.1
Bank of Nepal	15.00	+0.05	-1.2
Bank of Bhutan	10.00	+0.05	-1.3
Bank of Maldives	5.00	+0.05	-1.4
Bank of Brunei	4.00	+0.05	-1.5
Bank of Indonesia	3.00	+0.05	-1.6
Bank of Malaysia	2.00	+0.05	-1.7
Bank of Singapore	1.00	+0.05	-1.8
Bank of Thailand	0.50	+0.05	-1.9
Bank of Philippines	0.25	+0.05	-2.0
Bank of Vietnam	0.10	+0.05	-2.1
Bank of Laos	0.05	+0.05	-2.2
Bank of Cambodia	0.02	+0.05	-2.3
Bank of Myanmar	0.01	+0.05	-2.4
Bank of Timor	0.00	+0.05	-2.5
Bank of East Timor	0.00	+0.05	-2.6
Bank of West Bank	0.00	+0.05	-2.7
Bank of Gaza	0.00	+0.05	-2.8
Bank of Jordan	0.00	+0.05	-2.9
Bank of Iraq	0.00	+0.05	-3.0
Bank of Kuwait	0.00	+0.05	-3.1
Bank of Oman	0.00	+0.05	-3.2
Bank of Qatar	0.00	+0.05	-3.3
Bank of Saudi Arabia	0.00	+0.05	-3.4
Bank of Yemen	0.00	+0.05	-3.5
Bank of Djibouti	0.00	+0.05	-3.6
Bank of Eritrea	0.00	+0.05	-3.7
Bank of Ethiopia	0.00	+0.05	-3.8
Bank of Sudan	0.00	+0.05	-3.9
Bank of Chad	0.00	+0.05	-4.0
Bank of Niger	0.00	+0.05	-4.1
Bank of Mali	0.00	+0.05	-4.2
Bank of Burkina Faso	0.00	+0.05	-4.3
Bank of Benin	0.00	+0.05	-4.4
Bank of Togo	0.00	+0.05	-4.5
Bank of Ivory Coast	0.00	+0.05	-4.6
Bank of Ghana	0.00	+0.05	-4.7
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-4.8
Bank of Liberia	0.00	+0.05	-4.9
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.0
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.1
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.2
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.3
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.4
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.5
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.6
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.7
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.8
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-5.9
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.0
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.1
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.2
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.3
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.4
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.5
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.6
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.7
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.8
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-6.9
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.0
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.1
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.2
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.3
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.4
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.5
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.6
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.7
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.8
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-7.9
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.0
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.1
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.2
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.3
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.4
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.5
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.6
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.7
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.8
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-8.9
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.0
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.1
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.2
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.3
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.4
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.5
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.6
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.7
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.8
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-9.9
Bank of Sierra Leone	0.00	+0.05	-10.0

DISTRIBUTORS			
British Airways	120.00	+0.10	0.7
British Petroleum	110.00	+0.10	0.6
British Telecom	100.00	+0.10	0.5
British Virgin Islands	90.00	+0.10	0.4
British Virgin Islands	80.00	+0.10	0.3
British Virgin Islands	70.00	+0.10	0.2
British Virgin Islands	60.00	+0.10	0.1
British Virgin Islands	50.00	+0.10	0.0
British Virgin Islands	40.00	+0.10	-0.1
British Virgin Islands	30.00	+0.10	-0.2
British Virgin Islands	20.00	+0.10	-0.3
British Virgin Islands	10.00	+0.10	-0.4
British Virgin Islands	5.00	+0.10	-0.5
British Virgin Islands	2.50	+0.10	-0.6
British Virgin Islands	1.25	+0.10	-0.7
British Virgin Islands	0.62	+0.10	-0.8
British Virgin Islands	0.31	+0.10	-0.9
British Virgin Islands	0.16	+0.10	-1.0
British Virgin Islands	0.08	+0.10	-1.1
British Virgin Islands	0.04	+0.10	-1.2
British Virgin Islands	0.02	+0.10	-1.3
British Virgin Islands	0.01	+0.10	-1.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-1.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-1.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-1.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-1.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-1.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-2.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-3.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-4.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-5.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-6.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-7.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-8.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.0
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.1
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.2
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.3
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.4
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.5
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.6
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.7
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.8
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-9.9
British Virgin Islands	0.00	+0.10	-10.0

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Tim Brown contributes to the debate reopened by the ASB in *Accounting for Tax*

## Deferred tax rules matter

The Accounting Standards Board's discussion paper, *Accounting for Tax*, reopens a debate that has been around since the early 1970s. With the paper tentatively recommending the adoption of full provisioning for deferred tax, there is bound to be considerable opposition to the ASB's proposals from the many interests in favour of the flexibility allowed by the current system.

Why does it matter? Surely, the way in which a company accounts for its tax liabilities has no relevance to its cash flow. It follows then that if cash flow remains unchanged, so too does the value of the company, and thus its share price. In theory, that is correct. In practice, stock market prices can be affected by presentational changes, even though they should not be. Since share-price valuation is an inexact science, it is impossible to tell how much impact the presentation has had, as opposed to the raw numbers. It could also be argued that "new information" regarding a company's tax position will become available, thus causing prices to change. This is especially so if company managements, or others, change their actions because of a change in reported earnings.

Here is the nub of the problem. Under full provisioning for deferred tax, earnings per share will, in most cases, be lower than under partial provisioning or nil deferral. So, if we are unsure what impact



Tim Brown favours full provisioning of deferred taxation

presentation has on share values, but are almost certain that earnings will be lower. It will be no surprise if company managements and advisers argue for the system that produces higher earnings.

In these circumstances, it is important to know how large the "presentational" changes might be. In a recent publication, Linda Hestie, my colleague, and I have estimated the potential effect on earnings both for the market as a whole and specifically for non-financial companies capitalised at more than £1 billion.

The current published tax charge for the market is 33 per cent. The

same as the current rate of corporation tax. On our estimates, full provisioning for deferred tax would raise this to 35.5 per cent, reducing the market's earnings by 4 per cent. However, unless dividend payments are affected (which since cash flows will be unchanged, we consider unlikely) we do not consider that, in the near term, the market level will be greatly influenced.

For companies, the high/low earnings impact ranges from plus 170 per cent to minus 36 per cent. But, as we say in our publication: "We have deliberately not produced a table of 'winners' and 'losers' because the outcome of the

discussion paper and consultation process may not result in any change to existing practices for may even result in another variation with different 'presentational' results. Implementation is a long way off (end-1996?) and theory, at least, says that no change in share price is necessary. In addition, many of our calculations are, however, based on 1993 reports and accounts [prelims often contain insufficient information to make the necessary calculations]; the change to individual company earnings could be very different by end-1996."

We favour full provisioning of deferred taxation. First, the profit and loss account already contains many non-cash items, such as depreciation, pension fund credits/charges etc, where the mis-match between cash payments and accounting charges extends over many years. Secondly, the balance sheet is supposed to show a company's assets and liabilities. The fact that a liability may not be due for payment for many years is no reason to exclude it from the accounts. Thirdly, companies appear to have few qualms about pension fund surpluses being shown as deferred assets when the possibility of these being turned into cash is remote. Why should taxation be treated differently? The author is Chief UK Equity Strategist at UBS Limited

## Sitting on hands at the DTI

AS A result of inactivity on the part of the Department of Trade and Industry, next month will see a payout of about £500 million, the bulk of which will go to directors of companies that went bust between 1986 and 1994. At a time when the Government is expressing concern at company directors receiving what the public perceives as money for nothing, it seems extraordinary. In some cases, the payment of more than a £1 million each to company directors will even be funded by the taxpayer because the nonsensical decision means that directors get their salaries ahead of money that the Inland Revenue was owed after the corporate debacles.

The Government got everyone into this unjust mess and is now refusing to accept any responsibility. As Steve Hill, insolvency partner at Coopers & Lybrand, said last week: "The Department of Trade and Industry is sitting on its hands, masterfully."

The story began in 1985, when an ill-drafted amendment was put forward to the Insolvency Bill. The profession picked it up, realised the lunacy that would result, and protested. At that stage, Jeremy Hanley, now chairman of the Conservative Party, was the MP acting as the English ICA's adviser. He protested to the Minister, the late Alex Fletcher, himself a chartered accountant.

Mr Fletcher said he understood the problem, but gave an assurance that the lunacy that the resulting Insolvency Act of 1986



ROBERT BRUCE

contained would not be allowed to happen. The effect could have been that employees, particularly directors, would be owed salaries beyond the usual 14 days of a company going into receivership or administration.

The profession did not believe those assurances. Grant Thornton took a test case to court. This was the Specialised Mouldings case in 1987. The decision went to the profession. The inadvertent nonsense that the rogue amendment could be seen to be perpetrating would be ignored. The profession relied on that judgment. And so did the DTI.

Then, last month, the judgment in the Paramount Airways case against Touche Ross and Arthur Andersen was handed down. The

law lords "most reluctantly" threw out the accountancy firms' appeals that they should not be liable for severance pay beyond the 14-day period, as had been the intention of the Insolvency Act.

Hence the lunatic position that now exists where accountancy firms are going to have to pay out more than £500 million to people who, by and large, hardly deserve it. The DTI may argue in private that it can get away with doing nothing about it. After all, who is going to kick up a fuss about accountancy firms having to pay out cash unexpectedly?

It is estimated that £130 million of the £500 million could be accounted for by 1,000 executives. By and large, it is going to the directors who were often responsible for getting the companies into the mess in the first place.

Anyone who came into contact with Allen Griffiths, the rumorous president of the Society of Practitioners of Insolvency, in recent weeks before his death last week, would have no doubt of the injustice of the situation. "It's an outrage," would be the start of his noisy exposition of the case.

But, by the end, there would be no doubt about who was to blame and who, morally, should put it right. It is Jonathan Evans, Corporate Affairs Minister, who is sitting on his hands in the DTI, hoping no one will notice.

As Griffiths would have said: "It's not our cock-up. It's the Government's. They are the ones who have to do something about it."

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## FILM 1

Sigourney Weaver plays the torture victim in Polanski's sombre adaptation of Dorfman's *Death and the Maiden*

## FILM 2

Love blossoms for an American on holiday in Vienna in the delightful *Before Sunrise*

## THE TIMES ARTS

## FILM 3

Depardieu is back in *Le Colonel Chabert*, but Balzac's Napoleonic classic needs more pace

## FILM 4

Storming through Hollywood with a little help from a deadly virus: Wolfgang Petersen on *Outbreak*

CINEMA: After Chile with Roman Polanski, Geoff Brown welcomes a breath of spring air in Vienna

# Straining to unchain a gang of three

Roman Polanski is no stranger to enclosed spaces. *Knife in the Water*, his very first feature, squeezed three people on to a sailing boat for some gripping psychological games. In *Cul-de-Sac* the line-up became three mismatched people and a castle on Holy Island. Catherine Deneuve lost her sanity in a London flat in *Repulsion*, while Polanski himself suffered a haunted Paris domicile in *The Tenant*.

*Death and the Maiden*, largely shot in a Paris studio with a cast of three caged in a beach house, would therefore seem natural Polanski material. From the opening shot of Sigourney Weaver's caged face, Polanski savours all the suspense in Ariel Dorfman's play about a torture victim confronting her possible torturer in what the opening titles describe as "a country in South America, after the fall of the dictatorship". Chile, in other words.

The camera peers into faces and motives as Weaver's Paulina Escobar grills Ben Kingsley's Dr Miranda, who came to the house a good Samaritan and now sits tied to a chair, parties stuffed inside his mouth, brown tape plastered outside. Meanwhile, Weaver's husband (Stuart Wilson), newly appointed head of a government team investigating human rights offences, looks on anxiously.

The faces are caught in candlelight: a storm has cut off the power. As right advances, the house designed by Pierre Guffroy, an intricate set of hard wooden rectangles, becomes a cage. Details of Paulina's torture emerge. She was blindfolded, and raped 14 times to the sound of Schubert's *Death and the Maiden* quartet. There was scope here for Polanski to run riot. But he boycotts flamboyant gestures: this is cinema in chains, largely confined by the studio walls and the words of the script.

The words, though, are never far from the surface. Polanski's *Death and the Maiden* is a study in the need for revenge, but this never seems a personal work. Dorfman's text, adapted by the playwright with Rafael Yglesias, reigns supreme, and it determines the film's success or failure.

Polanski and his actors work hard to catch the intensity of Miranda's mock trial. Kingsley's cocktail of arrogance, reason and guile keeps us absorbed, though his guilt is never in much doubt. Weaver is commanding as Paulina, while Stuart Wilson grows in strength as the cautious husband.

## Death and the Maiden

Curzon West End, 18, 104 mins

Sober adaptation of Dorfman's play

## Before Sunrise

Odeon West End, 15, 101 mins

Richard Linklater's delicate charmer

## Outbreak

Warner West End, 18, 122 mins

Can Dustin Hoffman stop a deadly virus?

## Le Colonel Chabert

Curzon Mayfair, PG, 110 mins

A good Balzac yarn stoddily presented

## La Frontera

Metro, 15, 115 mins

Atmospheric story of exile from Chile

But without the electricity of a live performance or a bolder, more personal directorial approach, Dorfman's material remains rigid and humourless: a debate with clever speeches, not a drama with people. Here is food for the mind, then, and the social conscience, but not overmuch for the cinematic eye, or the heart.

After incarceration in Polanski's beach house, fresh air is needed. Richard Linklater's lovely *Before Sunrise* begins, unpromisingly, on a train. Then the train pulls into Vienna: and Ethan Hawke, an American wandering round Europe, is reluctant to stop talking to Julie Delpy's French student. He invites her to join him, exploring the city and each other, before his flight back to the States the next day. So off we trot through the long hours, by the Danube, in the Prater amusement park, to bars and cafes.

This is no simple travelogue. Linklater says he has jumped continents as if he were a tourist, but his typical stoppings ground is Austin, Texas — but he remains committed to young people's lives and thoughts. Viennese life looms in the background: we meet two amateur actors, and a homeless poet who writes poems to order. But mostly we stay with Linklater's young couple as they walk and talk, potting themselves on display, probing each other: the usual footwork for the start of a relationship.

Nothing in Linklater's *Slacker* and *Dazed and Confused* suggested he could delve deep into charac-



Stuart Wilson, Ben Kingsley and Sigourney Weaver working hard to convey intensity in *Death and the Maiden* but without the electricity of a live performance

ters, and make them more than vessels for social attitudes or off-beat remarks. Yet with Hawke and Delpy's help he does so with ease, making a film as humane and tender as they come in this age of blood, sweat and testosterone. The material, ultimately, is stretched too thin: but no matter. *Before Sunrise* respects people, their hearts and minds, and delights in the spectacle of two coming together: the perfect film for springtime.

Panic struck Hollywood last year when two producers grabbed the same idea: a thriller about a fast-spreading virus. One film, to be directed by Ridley Scott, got cancelled; *Outbreak*, directed by Wolfgang Petersen (interviewed below), got made. As a genre the viral

thriller has one big defect: how can you appreciate the stars' faces if they clomp around inside protective suits?

The visitors in *Outbreak* are particularly galling since they hide Dustin Hoffman, not your usual man of action. He plays Colonel Sam Daniels, an army doctor with a cheeky streak, tracking a virus spread by an African monkey smuggled out of a California laboratory. After one bite, human organs liquefy. The virus then mutates and becomes airborne: when one man coughs in a cinema, you know the town is doomed.

While the disease spreads, *Outbreak* is rousing popular cinema, tacitly directed with dialogue to match ("Looks like we have a Level

Four, Sam"). Trouble starts once the script makes room for a conspiracy plot and a preposterous finale. What had been an intelligent film about genuine fears becomes a silly fantasy with superficial thrills. Hoffman's role gives him little scope, though he is worth watching. Rene Russo injects warmth as his ex-wife; Kevin Spacey supplies laughs, and Donald Sutherland adds boredom.

None of them, however, matches Gérard Depardieu in *Le Colonel Chabert*. The ubiquitous French star sinks himself deep into every part. This time he sports stubble, a battered top hat, and the haunted demeanour of one declared dead on Napoleon's battlefields. Ten years after he disappeared, he stands in a

lawyer's office, demanding restitution of his name, his fortune and his former wife, now remarried to an ambitious count.

A Balzac novel supplied the plot, and it is a good one. The players make sweet music with their parts, especially Fabrice Luchini as the astute lawyer balancing the claims of Chabert and the countess (Fanny Ardant). The film's only drawback is its visual timidity. Though Yves Angelo is a fine cameraman, as a director he plods from close-up to close-up. *Le Colonel Chabert* is more than art-house fodder, but not quite the absorbing film that its cast and subject promised.

A first film from a Chilean director? You may be tempted to run a mile. Yet *La Frontera*, made

in 1991 by Ricardo Larrain, scars above expectations. There are obvious faults, from the overgenerous length to some flashy moments that suggest Larrain's years directing commercials. There are also powerful virtues.

The story, about a teacher exiled by the military to an isolated village prone to flooding, is strong and humane. Some characterisations are too broad, but Larrain's sense of visual atmosphere makes recompense. Local men dancing together on a Friday night; the exile's visiting family marooned on a raft; the surreal flood landscape of trees and ruined buildings: these images from the real Chile resonate longer than any dreamt up in Polanski's Paris studio.

David Robinson on the German director who made Dustin Hoffman into an action man for the box-office hit *Outbreak*

Wolfgang Petersen follows an old-established tradition of German star directors in Hollywood — even though a generation or two have elapsed since the great days of Fritz Lang, Ernst Lubitsch, Billy Wilder and Fred Zinnemann. In *The Line of Fire* won critical success and earned more than \$170 million worldwide, while *Outbreak* has taken more than \$50 million in its first five weeks in the US.

"I knew when I left school that I only wanted to make films," says 54-year-old Petersen. "But in 1960 not much was going on in German cinema, and at 19 you can't just announce you want to make a film. So instead I got permission to sit in on rehearsals in a little theatre."

"Nobody paid any attention to me; but then it was one of those stories. An actor got sick just before the opening. The director was desperate and asked if anyone knew the times; so I raised my hand for the first time. I did the part; and everyone was amazed and touched by this 19-year-old kid doing the lines with so much big emotion. After that the

## How the virus broke out

director took me on as his assistant; I studied acting; and a year later was directing.

"But at 25 I ended my stage career, because I still wanted to make films. I went to the Berlin Film Academy, which had just opened. All three of the short films he made in school were bought by television, and he was taken on to direct feature-length dramatic films for a high-profile monthly series, *Scene of the Crime*. Fighting to break out of the thriller mould, he directed *The Consequence*, which was banned by Bavarian television because it dealt with a homosexual affair. Instead it was given theatrical release and brought Petersen international reputation.

The Bavaria Film Studios meanwhile found themselves saddled with a project to film Buchheim's best-seller *The Boat*, along with a huge purpose-built set of a

submarine. Two attempts at American co-productions had already foundered. The new head of the studio asked if he would like to direct the film. Fearlessly, he leapt at the chance, starting by rewriting the script.

"It was the biggest postwar German production up to that time. I worked three years on the cinema version and the five-hour TV version; and it changed my life. The film was an international success and won six Oscar nominations. When that happens Hollywood offers you the world. But I resisted, and made another German film, *The Never-Ending Story*. When that turned out to be an even bigger financial success, Hollywood stepped up its invitations."

A project with Kathleen Turner was frustrated by the star's pregnancy, but served finally to ensure Petersen. "In the end you are overwhelmed by Holly-

wood. I did a thriller, *Shattered*, and then in *The Line of Fire*, with Clint Eastwood. That was my real breakthrough.

"*Outbreak* has a strange history. Three years ago an article in *The New Yorker* revealed that in 1991 some African monkeys had brought a lethal virus into the United States. As in our film, the virus mutated, and was airborne. The whole thing was hushed up, but the health authorities were desperate. Then, after the monkeys had been killed, they discovered that after all the virus was not dangerous to humans.

"Hollywood seized on the story. Fox bought the rights, but Warner decided to develop their own script, reckoning that viruses are in public domain, and that in any case the original story was too anticlimactic. A year later, both scripts landed on my desk. The Fox one was

great because it was factual; but Warner's was more dramatic.

"I am sure it happens in reality. As long as a Saddam Hussein is likely to use biological weapons, everyone else has to be prepared. The Japanese metro poisoning showed how available they are."

Bubbling and genial, Petersen is only slightly put out by the suggestion that the *deus ex machina* ending of the film is a shade unbelievable in medical terms. "We've compressed the time a bit for dramatic effect; but everything is true."

"Of course we took some dramatic licence to turn the third act into action adventure. In fact the scene that excites audiences most, when Dustin Hoffman goes up in a helicopter to confront the oncoming bomber aircraft, was only written three weeks before the end of shooting. Originally he simply talked to them from the ground; but Dustin said 'We have to find something more dramatic.' So we devised this idea of the mid-air confrontation. Sometimes you come up with these things when you are way down the road."



Wolfgang Petersen: big emotion

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VISUAL ART: John Russell Taylor on the extraordinary symbolism of a unique turn-of-the-century visionary



Chromatic riches in Odilon Redon's *Angel Executioner*

## Coloured dreams

ODILON Redon was that most undeclassifiable kind of artist, a visionary. He drew, and made prints, and painted, entirely out of his own haunted imagination. The closest parallels in contemporary French art — Redon was born in 1840 and died in 1916 — are not with "legitimate" painters, but with fantastic caricaturists like Grandville, with his strange anthropomorphic animals, and the often nameless journeyman who provided magazine illustrations for the tall tales of explorers and the even more unlikely projections of scientists.

Some of Redon's best-known works, the black and white graphics of nightmare creatures such as the spiders with human heads and the cactus man, have the same timeless quality as the etchings of Max Klinger, who was likewise much admired by Surrealists in search of kindred spirits.

But Redon's world is by no means confined to nightmare.

or to black and white. Earlier in his career he was most interested, it seems, in exploring the weirder side of his imagination in the "purest" form of monochrome, whether pencil, charcoal or some kind of printmaking process. But within this exploration there was another: he needed to discover every possible variation and gradation of black and white, so that even in monochrome he emerges as a colourist of genius.

From the beginning he also worked incidentally in colour as it is usually understood, but it would have been impossible to predict the richness and splendour with which he was to handle the whole chromatic range when he decided to let himself go in the flower pieces and mystical/mythological figure compositions of the 1900s.

If one absolutely has to label

Redon, "Symbolist" fits best. There is certainly some kinship with figures such as Gustave Moreau and Puvis de Chavannes, but Redon's art is more muscular and intense than that of either. There are no faint shadows of dreams half-remembered: when Redon is drawing or painting aureoled saints and mythical encounters it is as though he is observing them as directly and precisely as he does a vase of flowers.

Redon was little of a theoretician; though he wrote vividly about himself, he was deeply sceptical about all attempts to analyse the sources of his inspiration too closely. What did it matter how he approached the act of making art? All that finally counted was whether the result was satisfactory or not. He was the medium for ideas that came from he knew not where. He

exercised complete control over the expression of these ideas, but felt perhaps that trying to define their sources was all too likely to kill the goose that laid the golden egg.

Odilon Redon is at the Sackler Galleries, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1 0171-430 4999 daily 10am-6pm, until May 21. Admission £4.50, concessions £3.50.

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Loudly let the trumpet bray: Roger Norrington ushers in the peers and fairies of *Iolanthe*

## THE TIMES ARTS



## FESTIVAL

Pianist Kathryn Stott assembles top names for a feast of Fauré on his 150th anniversary



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*Iolanthe*  
Festival Hall

IN FOR a penny, in for a pound, as the Lord Chancellor sings. The LPO decided to give a liberal serving of Gilbert's dialogue as well as Sullivan's music at Tuesday's concert performance of *Iolanthe*. They carefully selected singers who looked the part, but then sandwiched them at the back of the platform between orchestra and chorus. Perhaps conductor Roger Norrington wanted to keep an especially steady eye on his starry cast.

This led to projection difficulties in the opening half hour. Neither Sullivan nor Gilbert was at his best at the start of the piece. The composer was too busy making musical jokes about *Rheingold*, with *Iolanthe* eddied at the bottom of a stream until summoned by the Brünnhilde-like Fairy Queen. The Ring was as much the rage in the London of the 1880s as it is now. And his librettist was indulging in mildly risqué jokes about fairies. Norrington took all this slowly and a shade prissily. *Iolanthe*, not a very familiar piece in London after the passing of Frank Hauser's Sadler's Wells production, was failing to penetrate the expanses of the Festival Hall.

The arrival of representatives of the House of Lords, Gilbert's true if gently derided subject, changed that. The trumpet brayed and the men of the LPO chorus put on some clarion voice. Richard Suart as the Lord Chancellor gave everyone a lesson in articulation and shaping a joke. He rushed on and appeared to have trouble with his music stand, before making it clear in *The Law is the True Embodiment* that he was the last person to need a score. When the *Nightmare Song* came in Act II, Suart even made a foray into the orchestra before collapsing in a miasma of bad dreams and then recovering swiftly for the trio *If You Go In*.

This, the most delectable number in the score, brought out the best in Neil Jenkins's grizzled Lord Tolliver and Gordon Sandison's Lord Mountararat. Sandison also made much of *When Britain Really Ruled the Waves*, not a patriotic number from *Pingapore*, but a hymn to lordly inactivity.

Suart may on occasion overdo the mugging, but he spurred on his fellow artists. Alison Hagley, tossing her blonde mane, was a haughty Phyllis, understandingly so with every lordling at her feet. There was a little hardness in her soprano, which softened when she was in duet with her true love Straphon, sung with grace by Gerald Finley.

*Iolanthe*'s main number comes right at the end: Roger Norrington slowed down the LPO and Susan Bickley gave it full sentimental weight. Sarah Walker's Fairy Queen was too often underpowered until she met the excellent Private Willis of Jonathan Best. Was it not Kenneth Baker who suggested this was Gilbert commenting on Queen Victoria and John Brown? Sedition still reigns.

JOHN HIGGINS

## One hip-hop to Euro-pop

Don't be surprised if a rap song wins the Eurovision, says David Toop. Despite its image, rap can be fun too

Say what you like about outmoded institutions, there is some comfort to be gained from knowing that sectors of the populace still enjoy beauty pageants, a day of rest on Sunday and the Eurovision Song Contest. We can rest assured that, for somebody, somewhere, time stands still and the boundaries of culture are boldly marked.

For the rest of us, all those teen symbols of life as it was in the 1950s have thawed into phlegm soup. Happy in our confusion, we trek to hippy rock festivals to watch middle-class road singers sing in the sunshine, we launch painfully fashionable easy-listening clubs — or we vote for rap songs on the sportily retitled *Song For Europe*.

But when Love City Groove's *Love City Groove* won the vote as United Kingdom representative in the forthcoming song contest, the era that embraced the Black and White Minstrels, *Sing Something Simple* and Katie Boyle intoning "nail point" was surely foreclosed. Finally, public opinion just said no to the Boom Bang-a-Bang aesthetic. Or as the Love City Groover named Beanz was heard to say about the result: "It's blown away once and for all the myth that rap-based music isn't popular music."

Having wiped out such formidable talents as Samantha Fox in the competition, Beanz may be forgiven his flurry of chest-beating. In truth, *Love City Groove* is a pleasant surprise. It is a rap song which bears little relationship to hip-hop heavyweights. Nothing wrong with it as pop music. As every schoolchild should know, a

kilo of feathers falls to the ground as quickly as a kilo of lead. View this connection alongside those grim and gritty rap videos, however, and any comparison becomes laughable.

That is the theory, at least. As it transpires, significant numbers of current hip-hop videos are concerned with female body parts and their scantily-clad display, thereof, rather than trenchant social comment. After a few tough

## In truth, Love City Groove has little in common with hip-hop heavyweights

years of menace and morbidity, the pleasure principle seems to have returned.

Rap on record began this way. The first hip-hop hit, *Rapper's Delight* by the Sugarhill Gang, is ancient enough now to warrant appearances on nostalgia television. Footage so dated as to appear utterly contemporary reveals the Gang surrounded by party-mad disco dancers, all of them dressed in styles that make *Saturday Night Fever* look sartorially drab.

This fledgling factor has long been dismissed by serious hip-hop theorists, but spare a thought for the novelty rap. Several of its artists have been fervently analysed in academic circles, yet so reviled by self-styled "real music" fans. For

the musical obsessive who narrates Nick Hornby's *High Fidelity*, hip-hop is as low on the credibility list as Pee-Wee Herman. Personally, I am still waiting for the Pee-Wee Herman comeback. Besides, any form of music so torn asunder by glorification and hatred deserves the gentle breeze of a novelty hit now and again.

*Shatter Rap* by Morris Minor and the Majors, for example, who could forget? I could, in fact. The specifics are lost but vague memories linger of a *Top of the Pops* appearance by some comedians, one of whom later made regular appearances as a humorous television panelist. *Wilkie Rap* by The Evasions is another lost gem of hip-hop flippancy. Students of low culture will recall that this particular record traded on a similarity between the onomatopoeic wilkie-wilkie noise of hip-hop record scratching and the name of a famous television broadcaster.

Then there were breakdance records. Breakdancing began as a spectacular kind of street dance before it became a cornerstone of such Hollywood movie milestones as *Breakdance 1* and, of course, *Breakdance 2*. The sight of young people spinning on their heads proved irresistible to those movers and shakers who start lids and crazes. No shopping city was complete without a bunch of pre-teens setting themselves up for lengthy oostaphaty sessions in later life.

There were great breakdance records, there were appalling ones, and there was one which sounded not unlike *Love City Groove*. Pardon me if the title escapes me, but these things are not meant to



Love City Groove, the rap band upon which British hopes are pinned in next month's Eurovision Song Contest

last. However, just to contradict that particular rule, consider the Beastie Boys. Their first rap record, *Cookie Puss*, was inspired by ice cream. Later came *Fight For Your Right (To Party)* and other anthems for socially indifferent slackers. After years of buffoonery the Beastie Boys seemed to slide into the corner

of oblivion reserved for novelty artists. Ten years later, that slide has been reversed and the band are vaunted as high priests of the new category-defying underground.

The same cannot be said for the Fat Boys. Their gimmick required no explanation. A brief appearance on *Miami Vice* and a collaboration with

the Beach Boys made them when posterity considered their case. Yet they deserve to be remembered for the manner in which they contrasted images of excess with pathetic rhymes: "Now it started off when I was very small; I devoured chocolate cakes, plates, candles and all."

*Love City Groove* may not have lines to rival these. But if it wins *Song For Europe* then next year we can expect every commercial rap act from Heraklion to Hammerfest to enter a tune. After all, few of us know where Europe is any more; why should we know the difference between hip-hop and Euro-pop?

## Gerald Larner talks to the pianist behind Manchester's two-week celebration of French music

## Fauré on foreign soil



Kathryn Stott: creative energy and independence

An ancient Yorkshire longhouse, just south of the Dales National Park and just west of the Pennine Way, is an unlikely place for the power-generator of a festival devoted to that of most intimately French of French composers, Gabriel Fauré. And Manchester — which Fauré visited on a concert tour in 1908 and found "black, smoky, foggy and altogether terrible" — is an unlikely place to present it.

But where Kathryn Stott is, there is French music in general and Fauré in particular. There is also a conviction that London has enough festivals of this kind and that Manchester is now, as she trustfully puts it, "a city with a lot going for it".

As for the power, you only have to experience the romantic intensity of her Fauré recordings, or the extraordinary vigour of her recent Chabrier disc, to realise what creative energy there is within the engagingly unassuming personality and the unimposing stature of Kathryn Stott. Firmly independent in spirit, she refuses to be manipulated by managers and to be trapped on the M25 between Gatwick and Heathrow. Instead, she is happily rooted, with her husband and ten-

year-old daughter, in her not particularly pretty little valley, where what's left of her mid-Pennine accent sounds right and where she can work without interruption between her periodical departures from Manchester airport.

The French connection was formed at the Yehudi Menuhin School where she had several French teachers, including Nadia Boulanger, a pupil of Fauré, and Vlado Perlemuter, an associate of Ravel and a direct link to performing traditions going back to beyond the turn of the century. But it was only later, when she made her first recording for Conifer, that she closed in on Fauré — at this stage as a composer with a name conveniently known to everyone for his Requiem and with a distinguished solo-piano catalogue just as conveniently known to few. Now, in a different frame of mind, she has just completed a four-disc set of the complete Fauré piano works for Hyperion.

She admits that learning the late works was hard. "You get them out and you can't make head or tail of them. They look so difficult that you are tempted to put them away again" — which is exactly what happened when she and Yo-Yo Ma, a regular chamber-music partner, first approached the cello sonatas. The secret, she discovered, "is not in the melodic interest, as it is in the immediately appealing early work, but in the harmonies".

The experience of getting to know those prophetic works of

Fauré's old age only strengthened her resolve to mount a Fauré festival to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth. She has been working on it for three years, devising the programmes, engaging the artists — including Yan Pascal Tortelier and the BBC Philharmonic, the Nash Ensemble, Yo-Yo Ma, the Labèque Sisters, Augustin Dumay, Raphael Oleg, Della Jones — and raising the funds as well.

"The fundraising was the frightening part of it," she says. So who's responsible if the festival fails to break even? "I am." Though she expresses disappointment with North West Arts and Manchester City Council for refusing to support what is, after all, a major contribution to the musical life of the region and an adornment on the reputation of the city, she is not frightened of making a loss. "This is something I believe in, and I knew that if I didn't do it no one else would."

With luck she shouldn't end up out of pocket. But, since she needs a 66 per cent capacity audience for no fewer than

eight chamber concerts or solo recitals and three orchestral concerts in 12 days — all of them devoted to Fauré and his French contemporaries — it will be a near thing.

She has secured substantial financial support from the French Embassy and from Watmough's (printers of *Helix* magazine among other things) who, she says, "are the sort of sponsor everyone needs. They just leave you to get on with it." She has also had considerable encouragement from the BBC, who will be broadcasting not only the three BBC PO concerts but also five of the other events.

By now she has put the financial worries behind her and is not at all apprehensive about the stress of the two weeks between next Monday and May 6. "No, I'm excited about it. I've been thinking about Fauré and the French Connection for three years, working hard on it every day for the past 18 months, and now I can't wait to see how it works. I can't wait to communicate something of the personality of the man himself, so charming in his youth and so profound in his rather sad old age. I'll be happy."

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## CONCERT: Maxwell Davies and the BBC PO in New York

AS A climax to its cross-country tour of the United States, the BBC Philharmonic played three concerts in three nights in New York City. The three evenings, performed in three of the city's five boroughs, constituted a little retrospective of the works of Peter Maxwell Davies, the orchestra's composer/conductor, who introduced the works at every concert.

The Bronx is a most unusu-

## Fire in the Bronx

al venue for symphonic music. The Lehman Centre for the Performing Arts, on a university campus in the middle of one of New York's toughest neighbourhoods, is ringed with barbed-wire fences and guardposts. Given the context, *Cross Lane Fair*, with its gaily clad Celtic drummer and juggling Northumberland pipes player, was a happy choice to acquaint the Bronx with Maxwell Davies.

The *Beltane Fire*, an as-yet unchoreographed ballet which had received its world premiere a few days earlier at Boston's Symphony Hall, made a powerful impression as a brilliantly coloured, complex composition.

Set on Hoy in the Orkneys.

It narrates the legend of a forbidden love affair of the 1600s between the indigenous pagan religion, which the composer represents with Celtic music played by a folk band, and the Kirk, which is suggested by deep, heavy strings and brass. The climax of the piece is a dionysiac fire-and-whisky ritual — a sort of Caledonian *Rite of Spring* — which gives the piece its name.

The orchestrations are finely colourful, finding myriad shadings within the composer's sombre, primarily baritone palette. There were passages that lagged, as though providing exposition for and commenting upon the ballet which has yet to be choreographed, and the occasional cliché. Nonetheless, *The Beltane Fire* is a very considerable work, which left one longing to see it staged.

JAMIE JAMES

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Stella Tillyard acclaims a sympathetic portrait of Tom Paine: freethinker, bestseller, survivor

# The prophet of revolution who was also Burke's peer

Tom Paine was probably the most widely read writer of the 18th century. His three great pamphlets, *Common Sense*, *The Rights of Man* and *The Age of Reason*, sold millions of copies and moulded the beliefs of a generation in Europe and America. John Keane's new biography ambitiously attempts to put Paine's life and works in the context of the political upheavals to which he contributed: American independence, the French Revolution, Pitt's "reign of terror" in Britain and the twilight of the Enlightenment in the Napoleonic Wars.

Keane's introduction rather testily dismisses all Paine's earlier biographers. But he is motivated less by dislike of his predecessors than by love for his subject, and he offers a compelling account of a man whose life deserves a greater place in our

In the winter of 1789-90 he visited Paris. Delighted with the early phase of the French Revolution, he arrived back in London determined to write a pamphlet in its defence. His correspondent Edmund Burke, meanwhile, was constructing a denunciation. It was the manicured, baroque brilliance of Burke's *Reflections*, with their proto-Bowdlerite intensity and rage, their over-balanced hatred of the "swinish multitude" and their prescient recognition that events in France constituted a "revolution in sentiments, manners and moral opinions", that inspired Paine to the defiantly "plain truths" of *The Rights of Man*. Paine refuted Burke point for point, seeing despotism where Burke saw monarchical order and predicting the civilising potential of democracy where Burke saw only a threat to stability.

**TOM PAINE**  
A Political Life  
By John Keane  
Bloomsbury, £25

memories and whose works should sit next to Burke's on our shelves. After an artful and up-bringing, infused with Quakerism and tinged with Methodism, and an early career as a stay-maker, excise man and debater, Paine left England in 1774. Eighteen months after arriving in Philadelphia, where he found work as a jobbing editor and journalist, he published *Common Sense*, which put the case against monarchy and for American independence, and sold 150,000 copies.

*Common Sense* caught and solidified the rebellious American mood just before the Declaration of Independence, and Paine became principal political pamphleteer to the revolution. Keane reports that demoralised American troops were read the quasi-Shakespearean call-to-arms in Paine's next pamphlet before the battle of Trenton: "These are times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now deserves the love and thanks of every man and woman." Although he always claimed to write in simple language, Paine knew the value of this kind of rhetoric. With his exhortation in their hearts, the Americans routed their enemies.

Fifteen years later Paine found an adversary whose literary skills equalled his own, and who spurred him to produce his next great work, *The Rights of Man*, published in 1791-92. By that time he was back in Britain, disillusioned with peacetime America, warning of its potential for popular despotism and determined to live where his words could best do their work.

Paine also pitted his "simple" language against Burke's rhetorical avalanche, recognising, as did some of his opponents, that style is ideological. As the hostile erstwhile Rousseauian, Brooke Boothby noticed, Paine seemed to write "in defiance of grammar", as if syntax were an aristocratic convention.

Keane's description of Paine's life after the publication of *The Rights of Man*, and his account of the 1790s in Britain, put the much-needed counter-case to recent historiography that concentrates on aristocracy, church and loyalism. He shows that, needlessly or otherwise, Pitt's Government was convinced in the aftermath of the phenomenal success of *The Rights of Man*, which sold more than half a million copies, that Paineite activity and belief was a genuine threat and revolution a genuine possibility.

All the Pittite talks of repression — suppression of *habeas corpus*, spy networks, trials for "seditious libel", the publication of propaganda — had been used earlier in the century, but this was the first time they had been deployed with such sophisticated coordination. Radical activity was ruthlessly suppressed, nowhere more so than in what Keane calls the "blood-stained soil of Ireland", where 30,000 died in the rebellion of 1798.

By then, Paine had fled to France, undermined in his absence as a traitor. Keane shows Paine in Paris as an heroic figure whose private life — or not-public life — comes into focus. Paine had always been determined to live up to his ideals and not profit by their popularity. In France he was initially the darling of the Convention,



Gillray alludes to Paine's work making stays in *Fashion Before Ease: A good Constitution sacrificed for a Fantastic Form*

but became a marked man when he fell out with Robespierre. It was then that he showed himself to be a great humanitarian.

Locked up in the Luxembourg prison for nearly all of 1794, and daily expecting a summons to the guillotine, he calmly continued in his belief in the civilising power of political debate and the ability of individuals to withstand despotism by their own conduct. As a fellow prisoner remembered: "He was the confidant of the

unhappy, the counsellor of the perplexed; and to his sympathising friendship many a devoted victim, in the hour of death, confided the last cares of humanity and the last wishes of tenderness." Against the odds, and very dramatically, Paine survived the Terror and preserved his belief in humanity. He had his weaknesses, especially over-indulgence in self-promotion and brandy. But his moral strength went beyond them.

He needed it all during his last years in America, where he lived into destitute old age, neglected as a fossil of the Enlightenment and reviled as an atheist. Keane's moving description of Paine — alone and depressed, but continuing to write and debate — completes a comprehensive portrait of an exemplary life.

Stella Tillyard's *Aristocrats* is now available in Vintage paperback.

## Enemy's enemy is my fiend

Ian Brodie

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE

Reagan, Bush and Saddam, 1982-90

By Bruce W. Jentleson  
Norton, £18.50

On August 25, 1988, five days after the Iraq war ended, Saddam Hussein unleashed a "final offensive" on the Iraqi Kurds. Planes and helicopters rained chemical warfare on 2 Kurdish villages. Troops blocked escape routes and went in to raze homes and finish off stragglers. Outraged, the US Senate demanded economic sanctions against Iraq, but President Reagan refused, saying they would jeopardise "cordial relations". After Iraq's Kuwaiti invasion, a former Reagan aide lamented that Saddam's use of poison gas against the Kurds and Iran had been the greatest missed opportunity "to put or foot down". As Bruce Jentleson recounts in *With Friends Like These*, ignoring Saddam's disregard for the treaty banning chemical warfare, which Iraq had signed, was just one in a series of disastrous miscalculations. Washington and London bore the Gulf War. The tragedy began when Reagan tilted in favour of Iraq against Iraq still loathed for its capture of the US Embassy. He reasons that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend".

Washington erroneously declared that Iraq no longer sponsored terrorism, clearing the way for an Iraqi buying spree of Western technology: a modernised Baghdad's armed forces and to develop nuclear chemical and biological weapons, plus ballistic missiles are the "Supergun". Export certificates falsely described military supplies as being for civilian use; Z1 helicopters were for "recreation". Saddam created a global network of front companies, such as Matrix-Churchill in Coventry and Ohio.

President Bush compounded the wrong-headed policy with his scandalous National Security Directive 26 in October 1990: "Dismissing the warning, it enshrined the rationale that Iraq would



Saddam celebrates the election defeat of George Bush in November 1992

"moderate its behaviour" given political and economic incentives, including \$1 billion in US government grain credits. Even with Iraqi troops massed on the Kuwaiti border, April Glaspié, US Ambassador in Baghdad, assured Saddam the US had "no opinion" in the dispute. A week later, Bush was frantically rallying the world to war.

Jentleson, a foreign policy adviser to the Clinton Administration, concludes that the enemy-enemy strategy must be handled far more prudently in future. The threat of a mutual enemy can take priority, but not to the exclusion of all issues of conflict. The prospective friend must know that co-operation has its rewards but non-cooperation its consequences. There must be a greater sense of proportion between the support provided and the threat faced.

The book is nit-pickingly edited ("Born, Germany") and indexed with capricious inadequacy. The text is devoid of colour, atmosphere and description, but is a detailed road map for other historians to follow. Jentleson's warning is a reminder, as we await the Scott report and other nations put pressure on Britain to lift sanctions against Iraq, that Saddam remains in power, unbeaten and unbowed.

Nigella Lawson reviews Ray Weldon's latest novel *Spinning*, which tackles multiple personalities. Plus: children's books, thrillers and paperbacks

## Floundering fathers of federalism

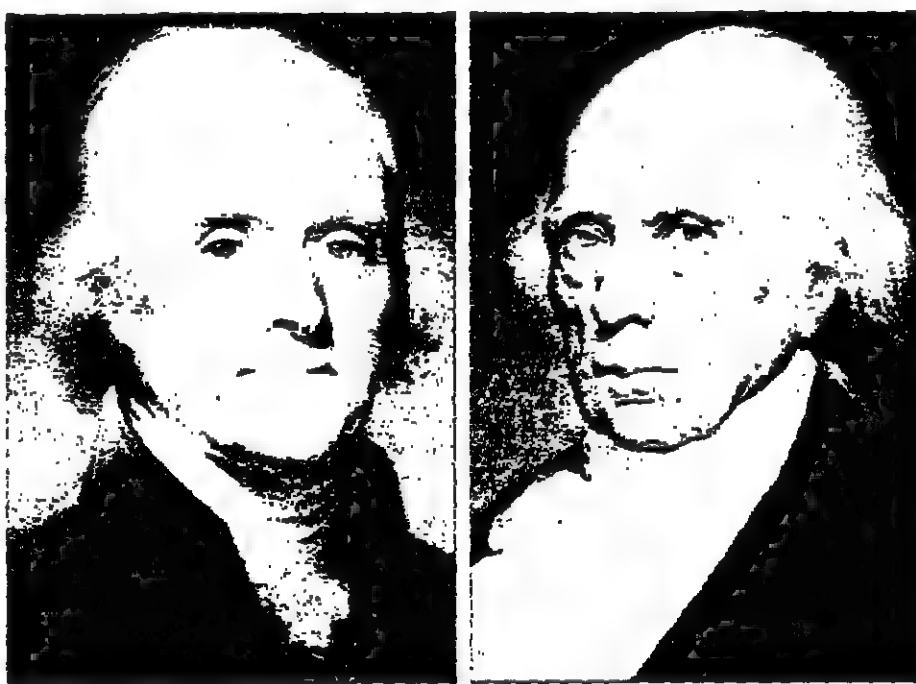
What is it like being ruled by philosopher kings? As nations struggle to throw off what used to be called the shackles of tyranny, they are often invited to reject the shipyard populism of Lech Walesa for the Platonic ideal of Vaclav Havel with all too little idea of what lies in store for them.

One Great Experiment might warn them: a nation whose independence is supposed to have been rationally planned; whose constitution was framed by political theorists of world-historical significance; whose early political life was entrusted to philosopher statesmen. If not to philosopher kings.

This myth of the founding of the United States once again grows in influence as nations are urged to level their ancient politics and to craft new written constitutions, devised by academic experts. They point for authority to the one unchallengeable model, the proof of the integrity and idealism of that glimmering array of philosopher statesmen, the Founding Fathers.

Looked at more critically, rather fewer of them deserve that accolade. Seen aside from the heroic setting of the American Revolution, few would have held their own in the world of the philosophes. Next to Voltaire and Rousseau, none figures. However much Franklin was lionised in the salons, perhaps only Jefferson could really be ranked with Europeans like d'Alembert, Burke, Condillac, Condorcet, Diderot, Goethe, Gibbon, Helvétius, d'Holbach, Hume, Johnson, Kant and the rest.

The new Republic produced only one classic of political theory. *The Federalist*. Yet the



Thomas Jefferson and James Madison: philosopher statesmen, but still politicians

**Jonathan Clark**

THE REPUBLIC OF LETTERS

The Correspondence between Thomas Jefferson and James Madison 1776-1826

Edited by James Morton Smith  
Norton, 3 vols, £15

real nature of this remarkable piece of special pleading by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay in favour of the Constitution of 1787 was obscured by the creation of the American myth: it was reinterpreted as a brilliant squaring of the circle, the achievement of a libertarian federal polity rather than the agonised papering-over of cracks which disastrously opened again with the Civil War of the 1860s.

What were the politics of this group of American philosopher statesmen like on the inside? This monumental edition of the letters of the two most prestigious of them, impeccably edited, is a fair enough sample.

Remonstrance for Religious Freedom. Father of the Constitution of the United States and of the Federal Bill of Rights and Defender of the Union.

Both were practical politicians too, each twice President: the most striking absence from their letters is the world of ideas. These two sages reacted to events, like ordinary men, on an ad hoc basis, and reacted very differently. Jefferson was appalled that the Philadelphia Convention of 1787 exceeded its instructions and created a superstate; Madison proposed using Federal troops against erring

states. Jefferson went to the opposite libertarian extreme. Madison ardently sought stable government and security of property; Jefferson gloriously speculated on democratic accountability and the autonomy of each generation to remake its laws and constitution afresh. Yet each thought that he stood for the principles of 1776.

Madison condemned the rebellions of 1786 and 1794 against the new Republic; Jefferson, in Paris as American minister, reacted to news of the first with the chilling observation that "a little rebellion now and then is a good thing, and as necessary in the political world as storm in the physical". Governors should be "so mild in their punishment of rebellions, as not to discourage them too much". But if Jefferson's naivety was exposed by the French Revolution, the cautious Madison, when President, was tricked by Napoleon into the war of 1812 with Britain.

Jefferson and Madison were enlisted in the same party, in opposition to Alexander Ham-

ilton's Federalists, but even party imperatives did not force these two theorists to pull together. Their disagreement went to the heart of the politics of the new republic: were the states or the union sovereign? Could a state amend a federal law as unconstitutional, or was its only redress through the Supreme Court? They created the problem, then cleverly left it unresolved.

Neither philosopher had an answer to the problems of principle posed to their egalitarianism by slavery: both remained slave-owners until their deaths. If principle got in the way, it could be sacrificed: when Jefferson as President sought congressional ratification of the Louisiana Purchase, an act which even he declared was "beyond the Constitution", his warning to Madison was: "I infer that the less we say about the constitutional difficulties respecting Louisiana the better."

Despite their graver tone, these letters remind one of Richard Crossman's diaries. Harold Wilson's *Crossan Experiment* of the 1960s was similarly mythologised as the apotheosis of the expert, academic and idealist. In 1939, the young Crossman published a book calling on his contemporaries "to reconstruct our society upon the principles of scientific planning".

Crossman's *Diaries* show what that meant in practice once he achieved Cabinet rank, the lofty generalisations about long-term ideals swamped by the mass of detailed daily business: policy problems dealt with by instant reactions, often the result of horse-trading. Little of this was known at the time: disillusion came later. The Crossman known to the political public was the New College don, author of *Plato Today*, every inch the philosopher statesman. But distance has lent enchantment to Jefferson and Madison: their reputations are likely to be enhanced by a superb edition which, in fact, subtly challenges them.

## Trifles well considered

THE TITLE of this slim, green volume could be considered an unforfeitable piece of trickery, were it not for the fact that its author, and principal subject, is a shameless literary trickster, always ready to give by his adoring public for the pranks he plays.

Some trusting readers will buy this book because they think it is a different red notebook altogether; the one that belonged to a man called Quinn and held the key to the first story in Auster's most celebrated work, his *New York Trilogy*. But, as readers of that book may remember, in the penultimate paragraph the red notebook passed out of the hands of the character called

Paul Auster and into those of the new and nameless narrator. It is gone forever in all but name.

The *Red Notebook* is in fact a collection of odds and ends. There are 13 "true stories", three prefaces to books anthologised, edited, or translated by Auster; and three interviews by the author — seemingly collated rather for the sake of collation than for anything more glorious. But the whole does offer a glimpse inside Auster's mind that is unmediated by the creative artifice of *Leviathan* or *Mr Vertigo*.

Most rewarding are the 13 stories. Each is a short, anecdotal narrative, with a final line informing us what the characters are doing at the moment in the readerly present that exists after the "story" has ended. The 13th ends: "This really happened. Like everything else I have set down in this red notebook, it is a true story." There is no reason to disbelieve this, as long as we always remember that the notebook is green.

Each story is about a coincidence, a tiny event that in most lives would be forgotten. The epigrammatic style has those

hints of Calvino and Borges that characterise Auster's longer fiction, as well as the paucity of superfluous colour, and use of initials rather than full names, that signify his indebtedness to the Germanic tradition of Kafka and Huxley. Each is a baby novel in its own right.

As for the prefaces, the first is an unremarkable survey of modern French poetry, the second a reflection on Mallarmé that runs a little deeper. They do little more than impress us with the novelist's knowledge of his subject, and point out some of the influences on his youthful poetry. Devotees of the novelist will be disappointed. The third is an argument for the acceptance of high-wire walking, and of the work of one "walker" in particular, as an art form — a little left-field, a little more Austerian.

In the interviews, the veil of creativity is lifted altogether as Auster explains his literary philosophy in the language of the layman: "Writing is no longer an act of free will for me, it's a matter of survival. An image surges up inside me... I have no choice but to embrace it." This occasionally descends into a Sunday supplement loviness, a prosaic soul-baring that is unnecessary from this consummate stylist. Divested of rigour, his unpremeditated sentiments are too like anybody else's.

AUSTER has always stressed that books need be no more explicable by formal causality, nor any more laden with incident, than our own hum-drum quotidian existence. If we are prepared to go along with that, we should be able to get over the initial disappointment that this book is not what it initially seemed, and appreciate that it is far better than it might have been.

Giles Coren

THE RED NOTEBOOK

By Paul Auster  
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# He that is down need fear no fall: long live the underdog

Feeling low? Lying low? Cheer up, forget those unfortunate creditors, and dip into *The Literary Companion to Low Life*. But don't expect contemporary tales of debauchery, the seamy side of rock and roll, "crack" and "smack" crime, or a certain spectacular columnist.

In this thoughtfully chosen anthology, Fiona Pitt-Kethley eschews the modern British masters of the disreputable who offers us arrachair sinners a walk on the wild side. (Permission fees!) Also forget Henry Miller, Damon Runyon, Sinclair Lewis, over there and Brecht, Zola, Cervantes nearer here. "It is the British obsession with class that has made us world leaders in writing about lowness", Pitt-Kethley informs us. "Again and again I found myself throwing out other Europeans in favour of

Flora Fraser

## THE LITERARY COMPANION TO LOW LIFE

By Fiona Pitt-Kethley  
Scribner, £17.99

English pieces. "Only the Russians — 19th century, match — get a look in. But they are definitely less good on the comic side of lowness."

*Low Life* is a sober survey of degradation and abasement in England and elsewhere circa 1600 to 1900, dug out from prose and poetry of those years. It will convince you, more than any issue of the *Big Issue*, that your lot is a happy one.



1973 / 1985 / 1992 deceased: the third frame in this triptych has been left deliberately blank by Milton Rogovin, a Lower West Side optometrist in Buffalo, New York, who photographed his patients 1973-1992; from *Triptychs* (Norton, £30), with essays by Stephen Jay Gould et al

The most cheerful character by far in the collection is Falstaff — admitted on his own deathbed, babbling of green fields and dreaming of drink. Dostoevsky's



*House of the Dead* yields a frightening passage on a dressing gown, prison hospital issue, "saturated with all sorts of unpleasant discharges, lotions, mauer from

broken blisters" after years immemorial on other patients' backs. The "marks of weakness, marks of woe" which Blake notes in every London face he meets are infec-

tious. I had always thought of Henry Carey's *Sally in Our Alley* as a chirpy ditty; on reading *Low Life* of Sally's apprentice lover serving out his "seven long years" I recognised that here was a story of — potentially — doomed love to rank with any in Shakespeare. After digesting the lone French entry — *Gargantua on the Best Way to Wipe the Bottom* — the reader would do well to turn to Bunyan for the consoling reflection: *He that is down need fear no fall. He that is low, no pride...*

Greed, avarice, sloth and lust there are in good measure in this anthology, and thieves' kitchens, "fallen" women and ingenious pickpockets too. But too many are culled from Henry Mayhew's epic *London Labour and the London Poor* and the *New Spoken Calendar*, edited by Andrew Knapp and

William Baldwin. Moreover, no publication dates — 1851 and 1836, respectively for those volumes — are supplied, nor do we get a clue when the selected authors lived, which does everyone a disservice. And how come Jeffrey Bernard is excluded on the ground that he only stoops to folly, being "in origins... probably of rather better class than many of us"? But Old Rowley or Charles II sneaks in as *A frog he would a-wooing go?* Good on him, anyway.

The book-jacket, featuring Bruegel's *Peasants Dancing at a Village Wedding* and devoid of interlopers racy or royal, sums up as *A frog he would a-wooing go?* Good on him, anyway.

Flora Fraser is the author of *Beloved Emma: A Life of Emma Lady Hamilton* (Weidenfeld).

Peter Ackroyd on America's one-way literary traffic to Europe

## Why the English novel will never be mid-Atlantic

America does not exist, therefore we have had to invent it. That, at least, is part of Malcolm Bradbury's point in a survey of transatlantic fantasies from Thomas More to Italo Calvino; but if this is a study of the Europeanisation of America, it is also about the Americanisation of Europe. American novels may have been over-publicised and over-written, but they were also definitely over here. It could even be said that the history of American literature is the history of expatriation — James, Hemingway, Stein, Eliot, Pound, Miller, Baldwin, Burroughs, all found their true cultural identity in England or in Europe. Of their own country they might even have appropriated Gertrude Stein's phrase: "there is no 'here' there".

Bradbury talks of the "fictional traffic" across the Atlantic, but in truth it has really only been one way. When English writers go to America, it tends to ruin them; later, Wood and Aldous Huxley are perhaps the two most eminent examples of that general failure of strength, or nerve. Dickens once said that English people in America become "like devils"; but tonight English writers simply turn into Americans. We may celebrate Greene in South America, and Lowry in Mexico; they had nothing to do with any "New World", only with that special, past-for-London, for example, of guilt and tribulation which they carried with them everywhere.

The story really begins with the first Puritan accounts, or as they are known to the trade "Original Narratives of Early American History". Works such as Edward Johnson's *Wonder Working Providence of Signs and Portents in New England* is a truly horrifying celebration of genocide against native Americans of the mid-17th century, but it also provides an effortlessly graphic account of the efforts to tame and cleanse "the wilderness". It is the first indigenous literature of America, and provides the first evidence of an American spirit which survives — still — which, in

## DANGEROUS PILGRIMAGES Trans-Atlantic Mythologies and the Novel

By Malcolm Bradbury  
Secker & Warburg, £30

Bradbury's words, has been "creating military-like systems and strategies, defining the very rules of time... growth was the American way."

It is significant, however, that the first true American novelist, James Fenimore Cooper, began by imitating Jane Austen and Scott, thus inaugurating the wholesale appropriation of English and European styles which has marked American literature.

Nathaniel Hawthorne came to London, his dream city, and declared that

"England is our fatherland; and our language, for I would not give up such a precious inheritance". Bradbury is very good on the way in which that inheritance was in fact inherited. In the American case, he disc-

usses Washington Irving's creation of the romantic and antiquated "past" for London, for example, although it has to be said that he was also working in the tradition of Lamb and De Quincey. So the wave of American interest was largely one of nostalgia.

In this account Mark Twain is the first novelist from that continent to "assault the past" as Bradbury puts it, "from the virtuous standpoint of the democratic America present". Of course Twain himself was not averse to a little closet ancestor worship of his own, as *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* testifies, but he did set up a genuine national tradition of forgetfulness. It is the secret of the success of American "realism", dirty or otherwise. It lies behind the great works of Dos-

Passos and James T. Farrell, continuing in the contemporary fiction of Tom Wolfe.

Mr Wolfe actually wrote an essay entitled *The New Social Novel*, in which he celebrated a return to social realism, although "newness" has now become America's oldest tradition. It is related to ideas of change and transition; it is of course intimately connected with some belief in novelty as intrinsically important. That is why, in fields as diverse as painting and ballet, American

artists have been the pre-eminent exponents of "the new". They are likely to be greeted as "pioneers" with a significance not lost upon those who are familiar with the history of the United States. Ever since the first settlers of New England rejected the historical institutions

of their old country, the American people seem to have been as firmly committed to the idea of change and of forward movement as they have been profoundly opposed to the apparent burden of the past. The question then becomes, in the context of Bradbury's book, can great fiction be created out of these conditions and can the great American audience be bothered to read it?

It is true that, after the Second World War, America's technological dominance led many to believe that it also threatened some form of cultural dominance. What America actually achieved were various forms of cultural sponsorship and the creation of what Bradbury calls "an international school

with a deeply transatlantic flavour". Yet it cannot be said that much real literary innovation has emerged from this network of themes and associations. The problem may be that America became international before it ever became national. There are of course many fine and admirable contemporary novelists — Heller, Vonnegut, Pynchon among others — but it would be hard to claim that they reflected or expressed any national tradition. The number of contemporary Americans who are interested in contemporary American literature is also very small, and one sometimes receives the impression that it survives only because it is taught in universities.

Bradbury's closing discussion of America as a "post-modern" phenomenon hardly guarantees any more secure future. He suggests that our contemporary experience of America is in some way the experience of an unreality, which is precisely what the early English visitors also discovered. Charles Dickens considered it to be as unreal as a stage set, while Evelyn Waugh treated it as *opera bouffe*. This is only to say, perhaps, that the United States is in no sense a European country; that is perhaps why its writers, owing much to European literary forms, are often neglected or marginalised.

One might take issue with this always interesting book upon Bradbury's own more personal note, when he states: "When I think of myself as a novelist, I think of myself as working in a transatlantic space; in that I'm far from alone." Not alone, perhaps, but hardly part of a crowd. There is an indigenous English novel — one might as well say, an indigenous Englishness — which has nothing to do with transatlantic pilgrimages or mid-Atlantic styles. There is a strong native tradition, going back to Defoe, which is not connected to any American inheritance. It may be the poorer for it, but it is true nonetheless. Perhaps it will be the subject of Malcolm Bradbury's next book.



Timothy Mo: his novel is a bleak depiction of the Philippines, but his gloomy vision is tempered with humour

## The unsavoury in full pursuit of the indecent

When the shower of shit, which he welcomed, splattered over his chest and belly Professor Pleidwengeler was thinking of his worst enemy, Dr Ruth Neumark. This, the first sentence of Timothy Mo's latest novel, is certainly guaranteed to seize the reader's attention; however, the eight-page prologue which continues to describe in minute detail Pleidwengeler's recent adventures with a Filipina prostitute may well prevent many readers from reaching the text proper, which would be a pity.

Brownout on Breadfruit Boulevard is Mo's fifth novel, and there is a strong temptation to like it simply because the author has taken the bold step of publishing it himself, having decided that the advances he had been offered by London editors were not enough. However, Mo also deserves applause for the quality of his prose. Three of his novels have been short-listed for the Booker Prize, and *Brownout* now sees Mo in top condition again.

The story revolves around a conference organised in the central Philippines by Victoria Inui, the wife of a local congressman. (A mini-Imelda Marcos), and the rivalries of the various participants. It reflects on the state of Asia, intellectual fashions, and the fact that in the Philippines murders "are rarely solved but seldom unavenged".

*Brownout* is in many ways a more exotic, harsher and nastier version of David Lodge's *Small World*. The dustjacket assures us that Mo has a special affection for the Philippines but one wonders how

Filipinos will react to his bleak appraisal of life on their islands.

Defecation does seem to be the motif of the book. Faecal imagery bobs up and down in the pages; at the end poor Pleidwengeler is blown up by a grenade while in a toilet cubicle and another of the characters is eaten by a central African dictator and "as naturally, later voided". Not to mention the name that Mo has chosen for his own imprint: "Pleidwengeler", must surely allude to shit creek?

Identity and character, whether racial or national, also provide Mo with interesting fodder. Mo is both willing to go along with stereotypes (the German Pleidwengeler has unfashionable views on race, the Japanese Professor of English Literature can't speak a word of English) and to play with them (the sight of giggling Australians causes Pleidwengeler to dismiss them as "Texan Jews").

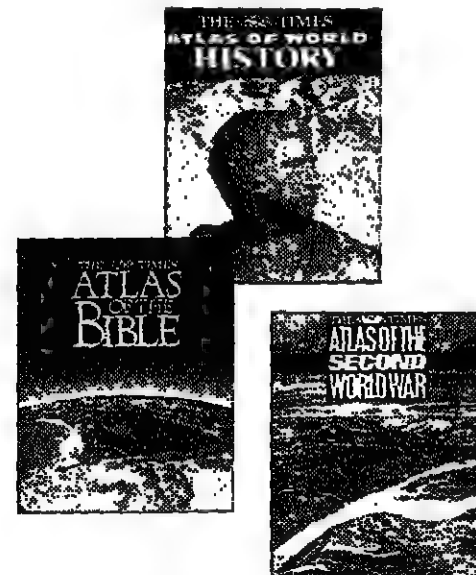
But it is Mo's punchy writing and a diction that draws on all the varieties of English that carry the day. The Philippines: "... gang-raped by Da-goes for coming on four centuries and then put on the Yankee titty". The convention hall: "It was where you might kick your heels for a Borgia pope, but gone high tech."

Though it has fragments of humour, Mo's vision is essentially gloomy (coprophilia, corruption, prostitution, wholesale murder), but entirely convincing; he writes with conviction and knowledge, though in the case of the opening scene one sincerely hopes he didn't feel the need to do the research first-hand.

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## Death in life and life in death

Claire Messud

HULA  
By Lisa Shea  
Vintage, £5.99  
paperback original

SHADOW SONG  
By Terry Kay  
Touchstone, £5.99

TO ANY child, its life seems somehow normal. The motives may be inexplicable, but children simply accept whatever enters their circumscribed world and deal with it as best they can. In her first novel, Lisa Shea has caught beautifully a little girl's simplicity in the face of unaccountable darkness.

Set in Virginia, told over the summers of 1964 and 1965, *Hula* describes a family from the perspective of the younger of two sisters, through discrete incidents that relay the sinister unease that lurks in their home. The girls' father, injured in wartime, has a metal plate attached to the back of his head, and peculiar moods to go with it. He is responsible for acts of varying degrees of oddity and menace.

The household's aura of fear is apparent even from the first page of the novel, when the girls' world — their garden — is described in terms of its hiding places: the blue bydrangea, the forsythia, and "the drainpipe that runs under the driveway. Things float in there when it rains — poplite sticks, bubble gum wrappers, the arms and legs and heads

of dolls we've thrown in after torturing them."

Torture is what it's all about. The girls' father, given to deranged rages, dresses up in a frightening gorilla outfit to express affection. But that is the least of his excesses: he shoots at things, and above all, burns. He burns the hula skirts the girls love to play with; after its death, he burns their dog; and in a culminating scene of horror, he brings home a sheep, batters it to death and sets it ablaze.

In the midst of this frenzy, the girls' mother hovers intermittently, ineffectually, like a ghost. It is left to them to make their lives, adjusting their games to their grim circumstances. They find a safe haven in each other's company, and learn to make

themselves scarce. But for the narrator, this last security is threatened when her sister discovers boys and rooms beyond the garden, discovering at once sex and the world outside the family madness.

Shea's gift is one of observation: the moments and details of this spare, dark book are imbued with a wrenching authenticity, and their cumulative power lingers. *Hula* is at once strongly evocative and somehow unsatisfying: in seeing so successfully through the eyes of a child, Shea offers us vivid glimpses of this troubled family that raise more questions than they answer — questions that readers, being adults, cannot help but ask.

TERRY Kay's *Shadow Song* is a different type of novel altogether. Amiable and sentimental, it tells the story of a Southern artist named Bobo Murphy, who travels to upstate New York to oversee the funeral of his old friend Avram Feldman, who has died aged 106. Bobo befriends Feldman when the younger man worked, as a teenager, in a resort in the Catskills, and his return floods him with

nostalgia for that lost youth as much as for his deceased mentor. It was here, in this almost exclusively Jewish holiday town, that Bobo first encountered a cosmopolitan vision of the world far removed from his redneck roots.

Kay's novel is a gayim's awkward hymn to Jewish culture. It is also a love story. Feldman was an eccentric who devoted his life to obsessive, unrequited love for an opera singer. It transpires that Bobo, too, has lived with a hidden romantic obsession — with a Jewish girl named Amy Lourie, whom he dated in the summer of 1955 and has never seen since. Inevitably (it is that sort of novel), Amy resurfaces at Feldman's funeral, and the couple are given a second chance. As both are married, they are also faced with a significant choice.

*Shadow Song* is not a novel to read for its prose, which is merely serviceable. Nor is it to be read for its plot, given that the denouement is transparent from early on. Rather it is a book for those who read for romance and consolation, who don't want fiction to be cluttered up with challenges.



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An elite organisation within their industry, they have an enviable reputation for quality and a firm commitment to the highest levels of customer care.

After working closely with the existing MD during a 3-6 month familiarisation programme, you will assume total responsibility for the running of this profitable, growing organisation. This is a demanding, multi-faceted, hands-on role where you will be expected to become involved not only from a general management, marketing and financial perspective, but also in establishing and developing relationships with key customers. You will also be responsible for managing the smooth relocation of the company within the Midlands area, ensuring minimal disruption and no associated loss of business.

A qualified Engineer with a proven track record in sales management, you must be highly numerate with previous budgetary experience. Highly customer focused, you should have proven people management, negotiation and communication skills. Previous experience of selling a highly technical product to end users and of managing an organisation undergoing major change is essential.

In addition to an attractive salary and bonus package, our client offers an excellent range of benefits including fully expensed executive car, and relocation assistance where applicable.

Interested candidates should send a comprehensive CV, including details of current remuneration, to Mavis WOULD, KPMG, 15 Pembroke Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3BG.

KPMG Selection & Search

## Group Commercial Managers

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

c£30K + LEASE CAR

CARDIFF AND PRESTON

The Public Health Laboratory Service is a unique national organisation operating within the NHS, responsible for the diagnosis and prevention of infectious diseases. We operate through 53 Area and Regional Health Laboratories. Following a recent strategic review these laboratories are to be reorganised into a number of Group laboratories, each encompassing some 5-7 of the existing sites. The first two of the Group laboratories are now being set up, one for the North West, the other for Wales, each with a several million budget responsibility.

This has created challenging opportunities for two Group Commercial Managers to work closely with their respective Group Directors and be responsible for all financial, business development and marketing activities in their area.

These key positions call for candidates with at least five years' business management experience, supported by a business or other relevant qualification. A proven track-record in a comparable field is essential, particularly one requiring financial and negotiating skills.

In addition you must be pragmatic, a motivator and an innovative problem solver. The ability to respond positively to a rapidly changing environment, travel extensively within your patch, and work flexible hours are key requirements. Experience in the NHS or equally complex large organisation would be an added advantage.

In return for your energy, commitment and business capabilities, you will receive an excellent compensation package including performance related pay and lease car. Relocation expenses may be payable if appropriate.

Similar positions may be available elsewhere in England in the coming months, so if you are interested in these or comparable positions then please write with full C.V. to John H. Phipps, Head of Human Resources, PHLS Headquarters, 61 Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5EQ.

The PHLS is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Closing date: 28th April 1995.

**PHLS**

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY  
SERVICE BOARD



## CHIEF EXECUTIVE AZTEC

Remuneration package c. £50K

AZTEC, the Training and Enterprise Council for SW London, covering the boroughs of Kingston upon Thames, Merton and Wandsworth, wishes to appoint a dynamic Chief Executive to develop the company.

One of eight TECs in London, AZTEC provides training and business support services in its area, contributes to economic development in partnership with other local agencies, and is involved in London-wide initiatives. It has 55 employees and an annual income of about £11 million.

### The job:

The Chief Executive is responsible for all aspects of the business, reporting to the Chairman of the board of non-executive leaders from the private business and public sectors. Key tasks for maximising local benefit include:

- Setting and implementing strategic objectives;
- Obtaining maximum funding from Central Government, Europe and other sources;
- Negotiating and delivering contracts for training and enterprise services;
- Working closely with other TECs;
- Promoting the company and managing its resources;
- Leading and motivating the staff.

### The person:

The successful candidate is likely to have:

- A successful track record in the delivery of services to high standards under pressure;
- Proven experience of leadership at or near board level;
- Ability to deal with both the public and private sectors and to work in partnership;
- Experience of managing multi-accountabilities;
- Experience of managing change management and developing new initiatives;
- The confidence to promote the company in the public arena.

Please apply in writing with your CV to David Hill, Chairman, AZTEC, Manor Gate House, 2 Manor Gate Road, Kingston upon Thames KT2 7AL. Closing date 25 April.

AZTEC is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to achieving the Investors in People standard.

## NORTHERN IRELAND CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

Salary: £36,739-£54,815

Applications are invited for the post of Chief Pharmaceutical Officer in the Department of Health and Social Services (Northern Ireland) which is based in Castle Buildings, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast.

The Chief Pharmaceutical Officer heads a group of staff which has responsibility for a number of statutory inspections and enforcement roles and also responsibility for providing pharmaceutical advice to Ministers and Northern Ireland Departments on all aspects of pharmaceutical policy. It has also managerial responsibility for post-graduate pharmaceutical education and training. A review of senior management is presently being carried out in the Department and the duties, salary structure and reporting details may be subject to change.

#### Applicants must:

1. be a pharmacy graduate;
2. be registered, or be eligible to be registered with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland;
3. have at least 5 years' recent experience in a senior management or senior administrative post, as well as having practical experience in community and/or hospital pharmacy. A thorough understanding with practical experience of the legislation relating to pharmacy is also essential as is a general understanding of wider pharmaceutical issues.

It may be an advantage to have a higher degree in a pharmacy or related discipline.

The appointment will be made on the basis of a fixed term contract for 3 years. There is the possibility of conversion to a permanent post or of renewal for a further period or periods.

Salary will be within the range of £36,739 to £54,815 within which pay progression will be performance related. The maximum available as basic pensionable pay is £48,612 but above this amount one-off non-pensionable bonuses may be available on an annual basis.

The annual leave allowance will be 25 days.

Applicants will not be appointed after their 57th birthday.

Assistance with relocation expenses may be available.

The Northern Ireland Civil Service Commissioners may decide to interview only those applicants who appear, from the information available, to be most suitable.

An application form and details of the post may be obtained by writing to or telephoning (quoting the job reference SB 24/95) the Civil Service Commission, Orchard House, 40 Foyle Street, Londonderry BT48 6AT. Telephone (01604) 319772.

Completed forms must be accompanied by a detailed Curriculum Vitae giving details of present salary and highlighting relevant qualifications and experience, and must be returned to arrive not later than 8 May 1995.

Further details of the post may be obtained by telephoning Belfast (01232) 522552.

The Northern Ireland Civil Service is committed to equality of opportunity in employment and welcomes applications from all suitably qualified applicants irrespective of religion, gender or disability. As Roman Catholics and women are currently under-represented in the Pharmaceutical discipline, applications from the Roman Catholic section of the community and from women would be particularly welcome. All applications will be considered strictly on the basis of merit.



### Measure your sales IQ!

Most people believe that they have sales ability - but how many put it to good use?

If you do have that special quality our selection and field training programme will get you earning £25,000 P.A. quickly, professionally and enjoyably. As one of the world's leading business publishing groups we have a large sales force engaged in selling advertising space by telephone from our London offices.

You will be contacting leading business corporations throughout the world, working in an exciting atmosphere with realistic earnings of £1000+ each week.

To join you need to be extremely motivated, dynamic with a good education and a sales/business background. We have a limited number of vacancies for people who can get involved and start earning now - so put your sales IQ to the test and call me today.

Carla Nocera, Tel: 0171 753 4285

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Professional help can get you out of the rut into the right job. We have an unparalleled track record in finding better careers for clients.

We offer a personally tailored range of services to suit each client's individual needs.

We can make you successful within the unexcused job market. Call us now on 01709 464646. **ARTICULATING CAREER CONSULTANTS**, 22 Skyline, Llanharmon, Llanelli SA14 8TB

### SOFTWARE ENGINEER

Interactive Language Teaching Ltd is a highly successful multimedia publishing company that produces language learning courses. We have a vacancy for a Software Engineer with a minimum of 3 years experience of programming in C. The successful candidate will also have previous experience in Pascal and an in-depth knowledge of both MS-DOS and MS Windows. Good software design skills are essential. A background in C++ and/or multimedia would also be highly advantageous. If you have the above skills, please send your CV to Peter Williams at Interactive Language Teaching Ltd, The Surrey Research, 3 Frederick Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 2YD. Salary from £17,000.

### CHINESE HERBALIST ACUPUNCTURIST

Wanted for full time position in a busy clinic. The successful applicant will also be required to teach courses in Traditional Chinese Medicine at advanced level. **Apply immediately to:** **APPLY TO:** **BOX 5829**

### DISTRIBUTION CO-ORDINATOR

£25,000

An outstanding career move for an innovative, forward thinker with at least 5 years' hands on experience of shipping, freight forwarding and distribution management in a blue chip, freight company. Warehouse knowledge, negotiating skills and experience of working with Eastern Europe all advantageous.

Call HAZEL BRANDON, 0171-483 1528

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### PAFEC SALES EXECUTIVES FOR EDM

We are the top Engineering Data Management Systems supplier in the UK. We are currently expanding our UK sales force. The Sales people we are looking for will possess the following qualities:

- Graduates in one of the main engineering disciplines
- Proven sales track record in winning new business in Engineering IT solutions
- Knowledge of the documentation processes within the Utilities, Oil and Gas, Defence and general Engineering markets

The remuneration package will be negotiable around £40K OTE plus car and BUPA. Please send your CV to: Personnel Department, PAFEC Ltd, Stacey Hall, Nottingham NG5 6PE.

### TOP SECRETARY

To Managing Director of small dynamic city company. Excellent shorthand speeds, personable, efficient, and highly competent. Salary negotiable circa £25K. French speaker an advantage. Apply now please. Full discretion. **Telephone 0171 242 5303**



David Webster Ltd

### MANAGING DIRECTOR

Up to £60,000 + usual benefits

This Hertfordshire Company is involved in the installation and maintenance of street lighting throughout the country.

You will be an entrepreneur and will have autonomy to expand operations and markets. Ambitious to succeed in this fiercely competitive sector, promotion to the Group Board within 3 years is possible for outstanding performance.

Qualified to degree level, or equivalent, in a field relevant to electrical contracting or construction, you will have had 3-5 years as an MD in addition to a minimum of 5 years at senior management level in the construction industry.

Fax 01438 798227 to set up an informal discussion, or send CV to: **Roland Bee, Time for People Ltd, 24 Bishops Rd, Twicken Wood, Welwyn, Herts, AL6 0NW**

### PROCUREMENT MANAGER

Littlewoods Chain Stores is a nation-wide, dynamic, growing organisation based in the prestigious Albert Dock complex in Liverpool. The company has plans for an exciting and challenging future as it adapts to meet the needs of its customers.

Due to the continued expansion of our business and an extensive programme of New Stores and refurbishments, we wish to appoint a Procurement Manager, whose responsibilities will include the total management of our future buying team to ensure added value and quality to all purchases.

In addition, duties would cover the continued development of new features to meet the changing requirements of the company and liaison with our property services team to ensure new and refurbished stores are delivered within budget and on programme.

The development of a system of "small fixtures"

refurbishment for stores will also form part of the brief.

The successful candidate must have extensive knowledge of shop fixtures and fittings, and have a proven track record in buying for the retail sector. A knowledge of catering equipment would be advantageous.

An attractive salary, together with other fringe benefits including company car, pension scheme and staff discount facilities are on offer for the successful candidate.

If you have the necessary skills and experience, together with the drive and enthusiasm to make a positive contribution to Littlewoods' future, apply in writing, giving details of education, experience and current salary, to: **Christine Woods, Human Resources Officer, Human Resources Department, Littlewoods, Atlantic Pavilion, Albert Dock, Liverpool L3 0AD.**

Closing date for receipt of applications - 30th April 1995.

**Littlewoods**

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER WITH AN ACTION PROGRAMME

### PERSECO EUROPE ACCOUNT MANAGER

We are the European subsidiary of an organisation that provides a worldwide supply chain management service in the area of food service packaging to McDonald's and Coca-Cola. Both of these global companies are experiencing tremendous pan-European growth. This growth will produce a significant spend on food service packaging.

The Account Manager's role will entail direct procurement responsibility for the Coca-Cola Account. This includes analysing supply scenarios, logistical planning, bid analysis, price negotiations and the development and implementation of supply chain strategies.

In addition to procurement, you will also interact with the Quality Assurance, R&D and Environmental departments as they conduct activities which relate to the Coca-Cola Account. This position will also involve the co-ordination of promotional packaging on both a local and pan-European basis.

The ideal candidate will have a strong purchasing background (5-7 years) preferably in the area of F.M.C.G. or food service/retail packaging. Knowledge of packaging converting and printing along with commercial experience is desirable. Verbal fluency in English and at least one other European language is a must. The candidate's presentation skills must be worthy of an audience of the highest level. This appointment is in the Thames Valley area, near London, and will require approximately 35% travel.

The position carries an attractive package and offers an exciting and progressive career in an international environment.

Applicants should send a full CV and recommendation to Miss C. Yeat by 15 May 1995, at Perseco Europe, Watnall Drive, Langley, Bucking, SL3 6EZ, UK.

### Head of Human Resources

Up to £50,000 package - negotiable

The Tate Gallery is seeking to appoint a motivated and energetic individual as Head of Human Resources on a 2 year fixed term contract to undertake the following principal roles:

- Oversee the development and implementation of Human Resource strategies, including the development of management competencies, across the Gallery.
- Devise pay and reward systems for 430 staff.
- Prepare business case for presentation to Treasury and DNH.
- Oversee implementation of new systems.

Candidates should have extensive experience of personnel management in a large, complex organisation, and experience of the design and implementation of pay and reward systems. Evidence of the ability to manage successfully organisational change and experience of working within a (multi) unionised environment would be advantageous. The post is challenging and demands excellent interpersonal skills within an effective management style.

Applications in the form of a full CV (including present or most recent remuneration), should be sent, by 1 May 1995, to:

**Peter Drew, Saxton Bampfylde International plc, PO Box 198, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4FH. (Fax: 01483 303029)**

## OUR RETAIL AREA MANAGERS DON'T JUST NEED A GOOD HEAD FOR FIGURES

Rushing from site to site checking books, squeezing higher margins and fire-fighting with short-term solutions is one way to approach retail area management.

At Ind Coope Retail, we believe in managing the business systematically and effectively. However, we recognise the way to outstanding success necessitates our Area Managers spending more time at each location, listening harder to their pub managers' ideas, working closer with them to turn these ideas into profit, being more customer focused and building brands more thoughtfully and effectively.

This approach is bringing good rewards for us in building our 450 strong pub estate of branded and local pubs. Brands such as Big Steak Pubs, Mr. Q's and Exchange Bar Diners are well on the way to brand prominence in the South East.

Put your fresh ideas and passion for the business to work with us and you'll find the Ind Coope Retail approach much more...

personal, much more thorough and above all, much more rewarding. To benefit from it, you need to have spent at least 2 years' area managing a multi-site operation and branded catering experience would be a big plus. We offer a very competitive package - the kind you'd expect from a successful subsidiary of Allied Domecq - which includes car, BUPA and an excellent pension scheme.

Please send your CV, salary details and a brief letter that really sells your experience to date, to Barbara Eldershaw, Personnel Manager, Ind Coope Retail, Sutherland House, 3 Dukes Meadow, Millboard Road, Bourne End, Bucks SL8 5XF.

IND COOPE RETAIL

the best in the business

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### BIRCHWOOD

#### Derbyshire

We are a leading manufacturer of structural reinforced and prestressed concrete. In line with our overall business development we now require an

### Operations Manager (Director designate)

c. £28k + car + benefits

responsible for two works and a team of 120. The ideal candidate must have experience of production management at a senior strategic level in precast concrete or a construction related industry.

This position calls for a practical, results-oriented person with good financial awareness and the ability to lead a team and obtain results within strict budget controls.

Applicants should apply in writing, in Strict Confidence, (no agencies please) to:

**PJ Moore, Managing Director  
Birchwood Concrete Products Ltd,  
Birchwood Way  
Cotes Park Industrial Estate  
Somercotes  
Derby DE55 4BN**

ARB & EA Group Company

Birchwood is an equal opportunities employer.

### FUND RAISER

#### SWORDFISH HERITAGE TRUST

The Royal Navy Historic Flight, currently operating the Swordfish and Firefly aircraft, which are a familiar sight at air shows throughout the UK, will shortly lose public funding and require financial support from other sources.

The Swordfish Heritage Trust, a registered charity administered by both civilian and serving Royal Naval Officer Trustees, is established both to promote the efficiency of aviation in the Royal Navy and to educate its members and members of the public in the history, traditions and exploits of the Fleet Air Arm and the history of naval aviation generally. One of the ways it achieves these aims is to provide financial support for the Historic Flight.

The Trust is seeking a Fundraising Director to devise and manage a campaign to procure £3 million over the next two years. Candidates must have a proven record of successful fundraising and be ready to present an outline strategy at interview, having acquired background information on application for the post.

Remuneration will be commensurate with experience and results.

Please write with CV to the Secretary, Swordfish Heritage Trust (Department F), PONA HQ, Yeoville, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 2RN.

Closing date for applications is Monday 15 May 1995.



**Unitech International, Inc.**, an operating unit of Unitech Systems, Inc., is the world leader in information integrity software providing solutions to the industry's leading customers in banking, finance, insurance, telecommunications and other fields. As we expand our international operations, we are excited to announce the opening of our office in the UK consisting of an immediate need for two highly motivated, professional Sales Executives to join our London area office.

**SALES EXECUTIVES**

In this key role, you will professionally, ethically and accurately sell Unitech's products and services to qualified prospects in the UK while maintaining close customer contact. Candidates must have at least 3-5 years experience selling IBM-compatible mainframe or midrange software. In addition, you must be a team player who is successful at both meeting and exceeding business objectives. Travel within the UK will be required.

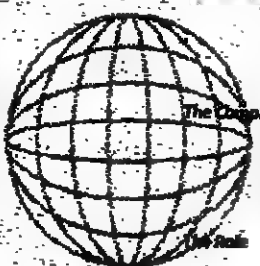
We offer a competitive compensation package and outstanding career growth opportunities within our organization. For immediate consideration, please send your CV along with a brief statement of current earnings, to:

Box No. 5398

**UNITECH INTERNATIONAL, Inc.**  
Information Integrity Specialists  
An operating unit of Unitech Systems, Inc.  
We are an equal opportunity employer

## Senior Management - Implementation

**BASED MOSCOW**  
**UP TO US\$160,000 PACKAGE**



With activities spanning the entire CIS & Russian region, this Fortune 100 organization has developed over the past five years a profitable portfolio of joint ventures and a thorough knowledge of dealing in this challenging hi-tech marketplace. The Regional Head Office supports an aggressive ongoing policy of business development. Plans this year are to increase still further the pace of growth, establishing it as one of the major investors in this area.

With a large number of business opportunities at implementation stage this role will involve planning, directing, organizing and controlling the setting up of significant joint venture business units. You will become involved at the business plan stage and will ensure the successful completion of the project, until commercial activities have commenced. While the project is developing your role will encompass relationship building with local partners, ensuring company objectives and standards are being maximised, and supervising Finance, Sales & Marketing and General Management. Ongoing reviewing of contractual obligations, evaluation and reporting of implementation progress and appraisal of personnel in line with a policy of continuous improvement.

Comprehensive knowledge of the Russian and/or CIS telephone business is the primary requirement. This will ideally be complemented with multiple set-up experience, preferably gained in Eastern Europe or similar challenging environments. An effective communicator across cultural differences, highly motivated and active, you will bring into this rapidly growing environment. Russian language is a benefit. Other desirable qualities are the ability to effectively manage projects, the ability to negotiate, and the ability to effectively manage projects, the ability to negotiate, and the ability to effectively manage projects.

Please send a full resume with a covering letter to the address/fax below quoting reference ST10027 on all correspondence. Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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Oxford 01865 728 400  
Sheffield 0114 282 0882  
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Warrington 01925 51 0558  
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20 South Road, London W15 2NQ. Tel: (0171) 734 3879

## CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER

Phoenix Publishing Systems, Inc. (PPI) is the world's largest publisher of electronic documents. We are seeking a Client Services Manager to join our team in Europe.

Based in Europe, the Client Services Manager will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the company's European business. You will oversee the company's European business, the search and most innovative software products in the electronic document industry. Your key responsibilities will include managing European customer relationships for the company's electronic document products, developing proposals and plans consistent with the company's business development strategy, as well as providing support to European Account Managers. You will develop an in-depth knowledge of the company's products and services, along with excellent specific implementation plans, working closely and in conjunction with international management teams, both in Europe and in the U.S. The candidate will also demonstrate proven leadership capabilities and the ability to lead an organization in the future. Required qualifications for this position include an in-depth knowledge of S&M technology, a minimum of 3 years' experience in the European electronic document industry, along with at least 5 years' experience in the creation and implementation of software based products in the PC OEM market. You must also demonstrate an aptitude for sales and marketing of PC OEM software solutions. Extensive knowledge of the European OEM and S&M communities and established contacts within major accounts are a plus. Travel is required.

PPI offers a competitive salary, bonus and profit sharing plan and a comprehensive benefits package. For immediate consideration, please send your resume to: Phoenix Publishing Systems, Inc., c/o John D. Hines, 8 Davis Court, Building A, Montway, CA 95040, or FAX to (408) 655-6063. We are an equal opportunity employer. M/F/V/N

**Phoenix**  
Phoenix Publishing Systems, Inc.

## TEACH WATERSPORTS IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

PGI Advertisers are now recruiting sailing, canoeing and windsurfing instructors to work at weekend holiday centres in France. Vacancies between March and September. Training given. Meals and accommodation provided plus being attractive. Work also available throughout Britain. Send your Application, Department: PGH, Advertisers, Allen Court, 100, Portland Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 3JH. Tel: 01473 707000

## DEPARTMENT MANAGER

With minimum five years' experience required to work in London for Loewe to deal specifically with Japanese clientele.

Must be fluent in English and Japanese.

Please apply to: Miss Liz Atkinson  
Telephone 0171 493 3914

## New Product Development

**London** **Retail**

Our client is one of the leading names in the UK Supermarket Business, where development of high quality, innovative new product ranges is vital to keep them ahead of their rivals. Join them now and you will become part of one of the most dynamic buying teams in the UK.

Your challenge will be to work within a team which identifies new opportunities, develops and launches new products to the marketplace to ensure that customer needs continue to be satisfied in this ever changing business. This will involve a thorough market analysis and liaison with a wide range of different parties, both inside the Company and with their suppliers.

To succeed you will need a degree, or equivalent, and 3 years' relevant experience in Brand Management and New Product Development, gained in a retail environment. Strong influencing skills coupled with flair and imagination are essential for this role.

The salary will reflect your experience and be commensurate with a company in the forefront of retailing.

To apply please forward your CV and supporting letter, including salary details, to: Tim Lewindon, Riley Consultancy, Riley House, 4 Red Lion Court, London EC4A 3BN. Closing date for applications 30th April 1995.

Our client is an equal opportunity employer.

**RILEY**  
LONDON • ABERDEEN • LEEDS • MANCHESTER • EDINBURGH  
GLASGOW • BRISTOL • NORWICH • BIRMINGHAM • NOTTINGHAM

**UK BASED**  
**Health Sector Field Manager**  
**Know How Fund - Russia**

A crucial part-time role co-ordinating bi-lateral healthcare partnerships. The Know How Fund (KHF) offers technical advice and expertise to countries in Eastern and Central Europe, the Baltic States and former Soviet Union to help them move towards democracy and a free market economy. KHF's strategy for assistance in the Health sector, 'Partnerships in Health Reform', was developed in 1992 to promote better health through the reform of systems and practices.

Focused on three regions or oblasts - Sverdlovsk, Samara and Kemerovo, the objectives are to improve organisation and financial management within large hospitals and at primary level; women's health issues, and health services to combat morbidity and mortality.

Working part-time, primarily from home in the UK and probably up to 12 days per month, you will be responsible for managing partnerships between UK and Russian groups, as well as monitoring project implementation and assisting in identifying new projects. This will demand close liaison with the three Health Clubs in the three focal oblasts. Attendance at meetings in London on at least one day per week will need to be supplemented by at least three visits a year to Russia - one to each of the oblasts. These are normally of two weeks' duration.

The role demands experience of government systems in Russia, specifically in relation to the health system. A sound grasp of the organisation of the UK health system and the recent NHS reforms, will match your knowledge of, and contacts amongst, UK health service institutions and the provision of UK support to overseas health reform. Project design and management experience is essential and you must be able to communicate clearly and concisely in Russian and English. A Masters level qualification in a health-related discipline would add weight to your application.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. To apply, write to: Tom Hinnigan, Overseas Development Administration, Room AH369, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, West Kilbride, Glasgow G75 5BA, tel 01895 848473 (24hr answerphone), fax 01895 843499.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 3 May 1995.

ODA is committed to a policy of equal opportunities and applications for this post are sought from both men and women.

**ODA**  
**OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION**  
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## THE DEAN AND CHAPTER OF WELLS CATHEDRAL

wish to appoint an  
**ADMINISTRATOR**

Salary £20-22K plus house and pension scheme. The post is vacant by retirement.

Applications are invited from a lay person of proven experience in management and administration. The Cathedral is developing its work in the light of the Archbishop's Commission Report on Cathedrals. We seek a colleague who will work with the Chapter and all members of the staff to take the Cathedral, its work and mission, into the next century.

Details and application form from: Administrator Applications, Cathedral Office, West Cloister, Wells, Somerset BA5 2PA

Closing date for application Friday, May 12 1995

## TEC NATIONAL COUNCIL

**CHAIRMAN OF**  
**THE TEC NATIONAL**  
**COUNCIL**

**A PART TIME APPOINTMENT**

The 81 Training and Enterprise Councils in England and Wales are independent private sector companies which play a key role in improving Britain's competitiveness. They do this by promoting business growth and training in their local communities.

Their network is led by The TEC National Council, which is chaired by an independent business person. It represents the national case for local training and enterprise development.

The Chairman of CELLNET, Mr Michael Bell CBE, who is the present Chairman of the TEC National Council, has been appointed by the Crown to be First Civil Service Commissioner. The TEC National Council is now seeking his successor, and will be pleased to receive nominations or to hear from individuals interested in this part-time appointment.

Full details may be obtained from Nigel Chilcott, Secretary to the Council, Westminster Tower, 3 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7XK. Tel: 0171 830 7841. Fax: 0171 735 0040.

Applications/nominations, marked "Personal", should be sent to Sarah Foster (for Mr David Hill, Chairman of the Appointment Panel), Higgs and Hill Overseas Ltd, Crown House, Kingston Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3ST by 15 May 1995.

The TEC National Council is committed to Equal Opportunities

## HEAD OF MARKETING &amp; COMMUNICATIONS

£38,424 - £44,004 + benefits

# Good News

Enfield is a Borough which knows where it's going. It is committed to working for all its people. To do this it focuses on meeting community needs, providing quality services, promoting democracy access and equality and giving community leadership.

To help us deliver this you will need to be a top quality professional and manager experienced in giving customers and citizens a voice by identifying their needs and influencing appropriate changes in service delivery and corporate culture.

You must be able to lead and manage a high pressured marketing and PR machine in a politically sensitive environment.

You will report direct to our Chief Executive and work closely with Councillors. As we are London's fifth biggest Council you will also need a detailed understanding of how local government works and its potential for good in the community.

For an informal discussion contact John Pitt on 0181 982 7264. Application forms and information packs are available from The Central Human Resources Unit, London Borough of Enfield, PO Box 50, Civic Centre, Silver Street, Enfield, London EN1 3XA. Tel: 0181 967 9188. Please quote ref: CEX/ST.

Closing date: 28th April 1995.



Working towards equal opportunities. We offer a smoke free environment.

**Chief Executive**  
c. £49K + PRP + benefits

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# The No 1 is back as season gets serious

FROM MEL WEBB IN CANNES

THE top man has arrived on the Côte d'Azur for the Cannes Open, that starts at Royal Mougins today. It is as good a signal as any that, whatever anybody might say to the contrary, the European golf season is only now genuinely getting under way.

Colin Montgomerie played in two PGA European Tour events in January, but an indication of how things have changed in professional golf on this side of the Atlantic can be gauged by the fact that the nearest of them was a six-hour flight away.

Montgomerie, who topped the domestic money list for the past two seasons, played in Dubai and Manila at the start of the year and also appeared in five events in the United States leading up to the Masters, in which he finished seventeenth, but this is the

feel comfortable in Europe and this is where I plan to stay, but it would be nice to have the option to play in some early-season events in the United States.

Montgomerie was second in Cannes last year behind Ian Woosnam, who defends a title he won at nearby Garmes-Mougins last year with an extraordinary weekend's golf. At this point on the Friday afternoon, he was 14 strokes off the pace, then turned the tournament on its head with a blistering round of 63 and 66. He played the first 26 holes in three over par and the last 46 in 20 under.

Woosnam, who will partner Montgomerie in the Perrier four-ball event in Paris next week, claims that he is enjoying his golf more now than he has for the past two years. "It's just a matter of time," he said. "I've just got to hole a few putts."

To that end, Woosnam tried putting back-handed — right hand above left — in the pro-am yesterday and will decide which method he will use before he sets out today. All depends, it would seem, on how he feels when he walks onto the putting green this morning.

Woosnam, who has a house on the estate that surrounds Royal Mougins, has local knowledge on his side. He has played the course, with its tight fairways and fast, undulating greens, about 15 times, and approves.

"It's just a question of playing the ball into the right places," he said. "Some of the holes might whinge and groan a bit but a lot of the short holes and second shots are played with nine-irons and wedges and if you can put the ball in the right position with them, you've got no right to be better than I."

He also has a one-man fan club with him this week. José María Aznar, who is coming to the south of France to cheer his son, "We're similar types," Woosnam said. "We're both sportsmen, he loves golf and we have the same sort of attitude to life."

"We both like a drink, too, but he can do that this week — I'm working." Working he might be, but it does not mean, it can be revealed, that he will be sipping Diet Coke for the rest of the week.



Montgomerie returns

first time he has graced a tournament in Europe with his massive presence.

Montgomerie comes into the tournament in good heart after his protracted spell in the United States. "I felt I played well enough over there to do very well in the Masters, but I just didn't score well," he said.

The curly-haired Scot has now turned his back on the United States, where he won the Open and the US PGA championship, and might even play an extra tournament if he is close to winning the \$145,000 that he believes would give him a US Tour card for next season.

So does that mean that he is planning to forsake his home tour for a life on the manicured fairways and immaculate greens of the United States? "Not at all," he said. "I



Coulthard receives the Carlos Menem memorial trophy from the Argentine President before the grand prix in Buenos Aires last week

## President's grief clouds grand prix return

Carlos Menem lost a son just as Argentina prepared for a new start in Formula One. Oliver Holt reports

The fiasco could be forgiven for thinking that grief has killed Carlos Menem, president of Argentina, on both temples. His hair is jet black but two strands of grey clothe each ear. It has been like that for some time but now those strands seem like natural allies for the sorrow that clouds his face.

Amid the frenzy of campaigning for presidential elections less than four weeks away, Menem can still find some respite in motor racing and football, his grand passions. Recent events, though, have conspired to flood even that refuge with tragedy and despair.

A little over a month ago, his only son, Carlos, 26, was killed in a helicopter crash as he travelled within Argentina to compete in a rally. Menem, a former rally driver himself, had introduced his son to the sport and encouraged him in his career. The death of Carlos — little Carlos — has hit him like a hammer blow.

Menem, 64, was supposed to drive a Ferrari around the circuit before the Argentine Grand Prix last week, to celebrate the return of Formula One racing to the country after a 14-year absence. But he called off the stunts after his son's death. Instead, an award was named after him and will be given to the pole position-winner every year. David Coulthard, the Williams-Renault driver, was the first recipient of the Carlos Menem Cup.

"Football has not been kind to the president, either. He is a friend of Diego Maradona and loyally stood by him during his expulsion from last year's World Cup finals. Maradona's tribulations have continued in past

weeks and frowns also furrow Menem's brow as he talks of the fall of one of the world's great footballers.

"I have no doubt that Maradona has been one of the best soccer players, if not the best, we have ever seen," he said. "A poor man that lives for sport in such a way and had the kind of success he did is going to be grabbed by fame. You have to be prepared for that."

"He had success very, very young after coming from a low level. He was

grand prix racing to the land of Fango and Restonnam.

Menem and his close friend, Bernie Ecclestone, president of the Formula One Constructors' Association, worked tirelessly to reinstate the race on the calendar, overseeing extensive safety improvements to the track and ensuring that the necessary infrastructure was in place.

Menem does not disguise his gratitude to Ecclestone and sees the return of the race as a symbol that

Argentina is once again a respected member of the international community, the final proof of world acceptance after the shame that was brought on the country by the military junta led by General Galtieri.

"Back then, Argentina lost its prestige," he said, "and, when we lost our prestige, we also lost Formula One. Now we have recovered our abilities, there is confidence in the country again. We have shown the world that we have the talent and that we have worked to bring about Formula One's return here."

"You have to take into account that the sport is broadcast to more than 300 million people all over the world. The race brings people from nearby countries like Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Brazil and Bolivia into the

country to see the event, and that has many beneficial effects."

What seems to give him most pleasure and solace, though, is to meander through the country's rich racing heritage. His father was the first man to bring a car — "one of the famous Model T Fords" — to his province in the second decade of the century and Menem talks affectionately of a presidential predecessor who continued to race in local events during his term of office.

"Motor racing is a great passion and it has a privileged space among the things that most Argentine people like and love," he said. "Since the beginning, people here wanted cars not just to travel in but to race in. Fango and Froilan Gonzalez brought us great prestige."

"My father raced in several different disciplines and, when I was 12 or a little bit younger, I also learnt to drive. Then I raced in karting and, in the same kart, I taught my son how to drive. Although I am a lawyer and a politician, I continue to be actively involved in motor racing."

"I raced in rallies for many years and I introduced my son to it at an international event in Uruguay a long time ago. That is when I saw he really had great possibilities."

"I tried to help him and push him and he really did quite well but, unfortunately, in the very time of his life... these things happen and he is not with us any more."

"Having the race here is like a tribute to him. It helps me to remember him with happiness, and that is the only way to remember the people that you love."

## Redgrave and Pinsent impress at trials

STEVE REDGRAVE and Matthew Pinsent, the Olympic champions, who produced the top performance by a coxless pair at the Great Britain rowing trials in Hazewinkel, Belgium, will be left as a unit to compete in the Pleduco Regatta in Italy in two weeks (Mike Rosewell writes). Rupert Obholzer and Tim Foster followed them home, but the Searle brothers, Greg and Jonny, Britain's

other Olympic champions, finished sixth. However, they will remain with Obholzer and Foster in a coxless four in Pleduco, the combination that won a bronze medal in the world championships last summer. Other crews selected for Italy are two men's lightweight fours, the Nottingham-based quartet of Dave Lemon, Jim McQueen, Tom Kay and Toby Hessian, and the

London-based four of Nick Strange, Ian Watson, Steve Ellis and Ben Helm. The depth of talent available at this level is going to make the eventual selection of one crew a difficult task.

Peter Haining, the world lightweight sculling champion, was, predictably, the fastest lightweight sculler in Belgium last weekend. He was followed home by Carl Smith, the Britain international, and

he should team up with Haining for the 1996 Olympics. The new combination will race in Pleduco.

Wade Hall-Craggs, Britain's 1992 Olympic sculler, was the fastest heavyweight on show, while Bob Thacker and James Cracknell booked their place in Italy with an impressive performance in the double sculls.

Results, page 44

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The refresher today is about "loser on loser" play.

AK10  
Q985  
K882  
AQ6

AK10  
Q985  
K882  
AQ6

Contract: 6NT by South

Lead: Ten of clubs

First, you count your top tricks: five in spades, one in hearts, two in diamonds and three in clubs. You need to develop one more, and it looks easy enough to set up another in diamonds — lay down the ace in case East has singleton Q, 10 or 9, then lead up to the king. Unlucky, West has two diamond tricks and you have let a cold one escape. How would you play 6NT on a heart lead? You play low from dummy, and win the ace. As it is now more dangerous to play

diamonds, that might direct you into the correct way of thinking. Simply cross to dummy with the ace of spades and lead the queen of hearts. You discard a diamond (the so-called loser-on-loser play) when East takes his king. Now, you have 12 tricks and obviously that is how you should have played when the opening lead was the ten of clubs. Try this one, from the late Hugh Kelsey's book, *Winning card play*. I will give the solution tomorrow.

AK10  
Q985  
K882  
AQ6

Contract: Four Spades by West Lead: King of diamonds

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge every day in the sports pages of *The Times*.

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Dual attack

At the Mikhail Tal Memorial tournament in Riga, Garry Kasparov and Vassily Ivanchuk are contesting the lead after a drawing in the fifth round. Meanwhile, the most elegant victory was that achieved by Anand, the Indian Grandmaster, against Timman, the Dutch Grandmaster. Anand sacrificed a pawn to inaugurate heavy pressure on the king's flank. Just when it seemed that Timman might be able to erect a defence, Anand switched fronts and, after threatening to penetrate, finally caused Black's resistance to crumble.

White: Viswanathan Anand-Black: Jan Timman. Tal Memorial, Riga, April 1995

Ray Lopez  
1. e4 e5  
2. Nf3 Nc6  
3. Bb5 a6  
4. B-a4 Nc6  
5. Qa2 b5  
6. Bxb3 0-0  
7. Bc2 d5  
8. c3 d4  
9. Rd1 Bg4  
10. h3 Bxh3  
11. Qc2 Ne5  
12. Bc2 c5  
13. Nd2 Nd7  
14. g4 Bg6  
15. Nf1 Nc6  
16. Ng3 Nc6

17. Nf5 Bb6  
18. h4 d5  
19. Qh5 Be4  
20. Kh1 Bf5  
21. Rg1 Bg6  
22. Qf3 Qc4  
23. Qc3 Qd4  
24. Qb3 Nc7  
25. Qc3 Qd7  
26. Ne4 Nf6  
27. Ng3 Qd8  
28. Nf5+ Ne7  
29. Bc3 Nc7  
30. Qc2 Ne7  
31. Rf1 Nf6  
32. Bb4 Nd8  
33. Qc3 Qd8  
34. Kg2 Qg7  
35. Bc3 Qd8  
36. Bb4 Nc7  
37. bxc4 Kf6  
38. Bb4 Kf6  
39. Qc1 Kg8  
40. Rg3 h6  
41. Qc3 Rf2  
42. Qb3 Qf6  
43. Qb1 Qf6  
44. Qb1 Qf6  
45. Rd6 Black resigns

Diagram of final position  
a b c d e f g h  
8  
7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
After 45... Qd6, 46. Qd7, 47. Rf6, 48. Bb4, white wins. 49... Rf2, 50. Rf6, 51. Qd7, 52. Rf2, 53. Qd7, 54. Rf2, 55. Qd7, 56. Rf2, 57. Qd7, 58. Rf2, 59. Qd7, 60. Rf2, 61. Qd7, 62. Rf2, 63. Qd7, 64. Rf2, 65. Qd7, 66. Rf2, 67. Qd7, 68. Rf2, 69. Qd7, 70. Rf2, 71. Qd7, 72. Rf2, 73. Qd7, 74. Rf2, 75. Qd7, 76. Rf2, 77. Qd7, 78. Rf2, 79. Qd7, 80. Rf2, 81. Qd7, 82. Rf2, 83. Qd7, 84. Rf2, 85. Qd7, 86. Rf2, 87. Qd7, 88. Rf2, 89. Qd7, 90. Rf2, 91. Qd7, 92. Rf2, 93. Qd7, 94. Rf2, 95. Qd7, 96. Rf2, 97. Qd7, 98. Rf2, 99. Qd7, 100. Rf2, 101. Qd7, 102. Rf2, 103. Qd7, 104. Rf2, 105. Qd7, 106. Rf2, 107. Qd7, 108. Rf2, 109. Qd7, 110. Rf2, 111. Qd7, 112. Rf2, 113. Qd7, 114. Rf2, 115. Qd7, 116. Rf2, 117. Qd7, 118. Rf2, 119. Qd7, 120. Rf2, 121. Qd7, 122. Rf2, 123. Qd7, 124. Rf2, 125. Qd7, 126. Rf2, 127. Qd7, 128. Rf2, 129. Qd7, 130. Rf2, 131. Qd7, 132. Rf2, 133. Qd7, 134. Rf2, 135. Qd7, 136. Rf2, 137. Qd7, 138. Rf2, 139. Qd7, 140. Rf2, 141. Qd7, 142. Rf2, 143. Qd7, 144. Rf2, 145. Qd7, 146. Rf2, 147. 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**BY RUSSELL KEMPSON**

## Palace pose test of title credentials

BY PETER BALL

It is hoped that familiarity will not breed contempt, fate having decreed that the sides will play each other five times in six weeks at the end of the season. They have also reached the two-legged Italian Cup final, and are scheduled to play on May 21 in the run-in to the Italian league championship.

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a person's face, heavily shadowed and distorted, appearing as if seen through a window or a screen. The image is grainy and has a stark, almost abstract quality. The person's features are partially obscured by deep shadows, with only the highlights on their forehead, nose, and cheekbones visible. The background is dark and indistinct, with some lighter, textured areas that might be reflections or parts of the environment. The overall effect is one of mystery and intensity.

**Lucinda Murray, who has withdrawn from the trials with injury, nursing her broken arm yesterday.**

## Badminton rewards reflect severity

By JESSY MACARTHEUM

Fence 6, the Mitsubishi "M" and first of the new fences Thomas unveiled

## Carling hints at World Cup strategy

BY DAVID HANDS  
BY CORRESPONDENT

"Obviously, our strategy depends on the outcome of the first game of the tournament," Carling said, referring to the

Losing games, however, for whatever tactical reason, is a hazardous pastime and under-

England's senior clubs meet in London today to rehearse their arguments against the introduction of legislation limiting the number of "foreign" players in league matches from next season. The legislation proposed by the Rugby Football Union's (RFU) competitions sub-committee is

**ROMANIA** (v. Boettling): V Băci: R Cloos, N Racaru, R Gontreac, G Solomie; N Năchitaru, D Neag: T Balza (captain), A Găleşu, T Orlan, I Costea, C Dojocescu, S Clomescu, V Tufă, G Leonis.

## Schneider decides on retirement at the top

## Dogged Rovers

At Highfield this weekend, Keighley should clinch the second division title, which has been rendered meaningless by their exclusion from the elite league. Jack Whwright, the Keighley secretary, said: "The club has resolved to take legal action against the Rugby Football League after Sunday's final league game, and we now have the necessary information to do so."

## Britons falter

**Bowie:** British players had a poor day in the pairs and triples at the Perm Atlantic Rim games in Durban yesterday. England lost to Namibia 26-9 in the pairs and 21-7 in the triples before lunch. Later, Gill Kingfield and Norma Shaw, the England pair who had finished, were beaten 20-12 by Spain. Celebration came when Scotland suffered a double defeat at the hands of Argentina and Wales lost to the United States in the pairs.

## Oval sold out

**Cricketers** Surrey have sold out of tickets for the sixth Cornhill Test match, between England and West Indies, in August. It is the first time that a Test match at the Oval has sold out before the start of the season. Gate receipts will exceed £2 million.



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## SAMPDORIA v ARSENAL

Cup Winner's Cup Semi-Final 2nd Leg  
Live on ITV, kick-off 7.30pm.

8/13 SAMPDORIA 9/4 DRAW ARSENAL 9/2

### SAMPDORIA TO WIN

11/2.....1-0	7/1.....2-1	11/1.....3-1	25/1.....4-0
6/1.....2-0	10/1.....3-0	40/1.....3-2	25/1.....4-1

### ARSENAL TO WIN

9/1.....1-0	18/1.....2-1	80/1.....3-1	
20/1.....2-0	80/1.....3-0	66/1.....3-2	

### ODDS FOR A DRAW


11/2.....0-0	5/1.....1-1	18/1.....2-2	90/1.....3-3
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Extra time does not count.

### DOUBLE RESULT BETTING

HALF TIME	FULL TIME	HALF TIME	FULL TIME	HALF TIME	FULL TIME
SAMPDORIA.....SAMPDORIA 1/14	DRAW.....SAMPDORIA 4/1	ARSENAL.....SAMPDORIA 1/25			
SAMPDORIA.....DRAW 14/1	DRAW.....DRAW 4/1	ARSENAL.....DRAW 20/1			
SAMPDORIA.....ARSENAL 40/1	DRAW.....ARSENAL 11/1	ARSENAL.....ARSENAL 18/1			

Prices for the Chelsea v Real Zaragoza game available on request.  
Extra time does not count. For other goal scorers and other correct scores on request.



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# Billy, a suitable case for further treatment

For the second week running, *Modern Times* (BBC 2) last night focused on someone who has made a living from menacing an innocent public, unlike the public relations diva Liz Brewer, who "chirruped" about fame and fabulous clients in last week's episode. Billy — this week's subject — traded in less blunt instruments of torture than 8-in-10 in glossies of Ivana Trump.

What makes Billy such an engaging curio, at least as far as former Liverpool gangland things go, is that he would be far more frightened of meeting you, or even Ivana, down a dark alley than you would of meeting him.

It's not that Billy scares easily. It's just that after years of slicing up strangers without much provocation — "I had a shotgun, a semi-automatic pistol and rifle, hand grenades. People were scared of me" — he twigged that unless he pulled himself together, he would

end up killing someone. Compassion nudged him from behind one night. "I went to this man's house, dragged him out of bed and stuck a gun in his mouth. His wife was screaming. Seeing the pain on that woman's face, I thought, 'What am I doing?' So he turned over a new leaf."

But having retreated from the brink, he is now petrified that he will not be able to house-train his violent streak like a reformed alcoholic. He is, twice as often, falling off the wagon and lashing out uncontrollably at passers-by, even at his three-year-old daughter. How twit? Twit? Enough to hire a pair of chunky bodyguards — not, as in the old days, to protect him from underworld enemies, but to protect the public from his rage. Living in this Lewis Carroll world, a perplexing mirror-image of his former way of life, Billy also carries handcuffs — again not to shackle others, but to

secure himself to any convenient railing should he feel a flush of violent fury coming on.

Cathy Elliot's film tracked 43-year-old Billy as he checked into the Maudsley Psychiatric Hospital in south London, for a 12-week course to shake off what has turned from a fear into a full-blown obsessive compulsive disorder. Billy's first hurdle was coming to terms with the afflictions of his fellow patients: one feels contaminated, one fears blood and semen. Another has a phobia about Jack the Ripper that keeps her well clear of Whitechapel, which baffles Billy even more than his own crisis of all the thousands of people Jack the Ripper could terrorise if he returned to London, he asked the lady, why would he choose little old you?

But Billy sneered less as he began confronting his own demons: as he mixed with people

## REVIEW



Joe Joseph

again, and strolled anxiously through busy railway stations, he realised how painful the treatment is. The Maudsley's medicine comes in the form of exposure therapy, in which patients must face their phobias directly. So Billy abandoned his bodyguards, travelled by train, shopped in supermarkets: yet three months of counselling later, the Maudsley method had proved only partially

successful. Still, Billy can console himself that he is not the only casualty of this therapy. It fell flat on its face when Ricki Lake (Channel 4) hijacked the technique for her show.

Never one to let the big questions go unanswered, Ricki yesterday turned her microphone on three women whose obsessive compulsive disorder seemed to be an inability to exist without a man, even one who might be dim, nasty or mean.

Vicky, Donna and Karen were wheeled before the studio audience to confess that "Without a Man in My Life I'm Nothing". Ricki's exposure therapy relied on salting the audience with unispiriting men, whose contributions to the debate were so incoherent that they made the speaking clock sound thought-provoking. The treatment failed to work at all on Vicky, who went home insisting "I need a man to make me happy".

Or on Karen, who still swore that "It's better to have a man who treats you like dirt than no man at all," by which she seemed to be suggesting something even more ominous than spending Saturday night toying with Danny Baker's offer of a free pack of Daz.

Maybe Vicky and Karen should see just how real life can get by visiting their local casualty ward after the bars close. Or they can take a short cut and switch on *Cardiac Arrest* (BBC1). Back for another series, this time in a casualty ward, *Cardiac Arrest* continues its watchable cocktail — one part *Dr Kildare* to two parts each of *NYPD Blue* and *Hill Street Blues*, a dash of sympathy, plus jokes to cut any sickly aftertaste.

No scene lasts much longer than 30 seconds, which is the writer John MacLure's way of catering to

the modern fashion for cut-and-run drama. With corridors brimming with patients on trolleys waiting for a bed, avuncular consultants recalling "a time when the most important people were the patients", an overworked surgical registrar doing his rounds on roller skates, and patients dying for lack of resources and bungled diagnoses, the new series will probably attract the same accusations of anti-Bottomley, left-wing bias as the first.

Andrew Collin and Claire Maitland, who have matured from green newcomers in the first series into jaundiced senior house officers, punctured the breathtaking arrogance of new boy Phil Kirkby. "We work on this ward here," Andrew started explaining to Phil, before Claire butted in: "Phil, you work in a pool of excrement. Your job is to swim for the shallow end." Frankly, it sounds pretty much like Karen's idea of man-hunting.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (50310)
  - 7.00am BBC Breakfast News (31287049)
  - 9.05am Smit Kats: Deadly Pyramids (4972812)
  - 9.25am Why Don't You...? (s) (255914)
  - 10.00am News (Castel), regional news and weather (1328562) 10.05am EastEnders — The Early Days (s) (Castel) (2523907)
  - 10.35am Good Morning with Anne and Nick: Family magazine (s) (695594)
  - 12.00pm News (Castel) and weather (6779117) 12.05pm Pebble MIM (s) (2509546) 12.55pm Regional News and weather (Castel) (6959502)
  - 1.00pm One O'Clock News and Weather (Castel) (38772)
  - 1.30pm Neighbours (s) (Castel) (6854778)
  - 1.50pm Going for Gold: General knowledge quiz presented by Henry Kelly (s) (6833594)
  - 2.15pm FILM: Charcoal (1989) Jesse has to take drastic action when his old gang frame him for a robbery. Starring: Ewan McGregor, Directed by Charles Marquis Warren. (433310)
  - 3.50pm Monty (s) (1184662) 3.55pm Why Did the Chicken? (s) (6133310) 4.10pm Speed Racer (Castel) (50320) 4.35pm The Art and Design Show (s) (Castel) (3531033)
  - 5.00pm Newsnight (5342325)
  - 5.10pm The Machine Gunners: A dramatisation of Robert Westall's tale, set on Tyneside during the Second World War. (s) (Castel) (2259198)
  - 5.35pm Neighbours (s) (Castel) (410846)
  - 6.00pm News and weather (Castel) (575)
  - 6.30pm Regional news magazine (s) (227)
  - 7.00pm Top of the Pops (s) (Castel) (9020)

- BBC2**
- 6.00am Breakfast News (Signed and subtitled) (7500848)
  - 6.15pm Westminster: On-Line with Andrew Neil (s) (7083117)
  - 9.00pm Power Game: The Unselected. Continuing the series behind the scenes in the corridors of power. Washington DC (68223)
  - 10.00pm Playdays: The Patch Stop. (s) (7185533)
  - 10.25pm World Snooker from Sheffield (s) (15192372)
  - 12.30pm Working Lunch (65556)
  - 1.00pm The Little Polar Bear (5855591)
  - 1.05pm Junior Jungle (73240730)
  - 1.15pm World Snooker: More action from Sheffield (7216914)
  - 3.00pm News and weather followed by Westminster with Nick Ross. (s) (Castel) (1176962) 3.50pm News (Castel) and weather (2557001)
  - 4.00pm World Snooker from Sheffield (s) (2465)
  - 6.00pm Quantum Leap: Future Boy. Scientist Sam Beckett returns as a young actor who must prevent an eccentric television actor from being committed to an institution by his daughter. (s) (6) (304372)
  - 6.45pm Lifestream. Two gadget addicts with an automated dream home swap lives with a garage farmer from a remote island in Wales. (s) (Castel) (616573)
  - 7.00pm Waiting for God: Retirement home comedy. (s) (Castel) (7852)
  - 7.30pm First Sight: College Wars. A report on a secret Muslim sect that is trying to convert school leavers to Islam. (61) Wales: Gloves, Sweat and Tears: East Meets West: Midlands: Midlands Report: South: Southern Eye: South-west: Close Up: West: Close Up West
  - 8.00pm Russian Wonderland. A compilation of three short films by Russian film-makers. (s) (Castel) (6310)
  - 8.30pm Top Gear. Jeremy Clarkson reports from the driving seat of a range of new convertibles including the Lotus Elise, the Fiat Punto and the Toyota Celica. TW: Needles tests the new 511 Porsche. (s) (Castel) (217)

- Channel 4**
- 9.00pm The Holylands. Channel 4, 9.00pm. The last of the trilogy, which has looked at the current situation in Israel in the wake of the 1993 Oslo peace accords, concentrates on the victims of the "peace". Since the signing of the accords more than 100 Israelis and 200 Palestinians have been killed, many victims of religious fundamentalists dedicated to undermining the peace process. This moving documentary looks at the emotional impact on the families and how they struggle to make sense of their loss. Against this backdrop, keeping the peace initiative alive seems a fragile proposition indeed. It is left to a widow of a murdered pro-reconciliation Jewish farmer to have the last word: "I could only climb a mountain. I'd shout, so the whole world would hear: Enough Enough!"



Jennifer Saunders, Joanna Lumley (BBC1, 9.30pm)

**Absolutely Fabulous** BBC1 9.30pm. Midway through the third series, Jennifer Saunders shows what she can do without the distractions of celebrity locations or celebrity guests. Sex has never been Edina's "thing", despite the 1960s and free love. Determined to correct this omission, she and Patsy hire a couple of "hunks" for an orgy. While Edina suffers endless anxiety attacks, Patsy (whose bottom lip is so swollen she's beginning to look like a compressed carp) churns out cheesy, male chat-up lines. Daughters are supposedly sexy out of the way conducting a lecture on genetics and ethics but things are never that simple. The scene is set for some frantic rushing about and an ending which leaves everyone cringing with embarrassment.

**Wildlife on One: Night of the Leopard** BBC1 8.00pm (not Scottish). Night filming of wildlife has been almost impossible because ordinary cameras need a great deal of light, which risks disturbing the animals' activities. In Owen Newman and Amanda Barrett's film, introduced by David Attenborough, an ultra-sensitive video-camera has been used to track a lone female African leopard throughout the course of a night's hunt. Because the leopard cannot run fast she has to wait for four or five metres of her prey before pouncing. Her feline waxes and wanes along with the moon: when it is clouded over she uses the shadows to conceal her presence, but when it is revealed, so is she. An intense, claustrophobic film, full of close-ups of eye and claw in shadow — a film noir of the animal world.

**Food File** Channel 4, 8.30pm. "Colonic irrigation, my arse," says comedian Jeremy Hardy, who has an intense scepticism about this latest addition to the alternative health kick. Can douching one's derriere really cure everything from dandruff to athlete's foot? Only half convinced, the analytically retentive Englishman visits a north London clinic where he is shown the rigour of the work. While Hardy faces with the business end of the pipe, Hardy turns very pale and mutters something about a preference for several pints of Guinness. From more varieties of potatoes to be made available for both the shopper and the grower and warns of the dangers threatening the spud if biodiversity is not introduced. Frances Lee

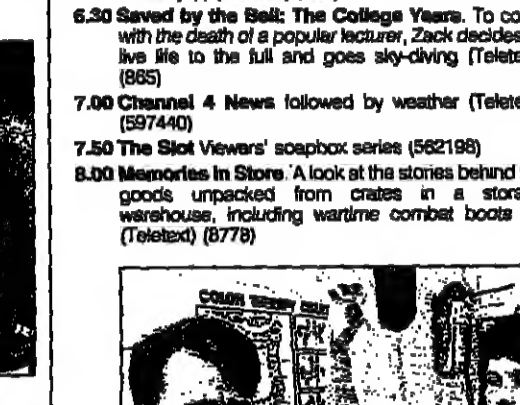
- CARLTON**
- 6.00am GMTV (3607855)
  - 9.25am Chain Letters (s) (2091204) 9.55am London Today (Teletext) and weather (4738812)
  - 10.00am James Bond Junior: Animated adventures (66575)
  - 10.30pm FILM: Return to Snowy River II (1988) starring Tom Burlinson, Sigrid Thornton and Brian Dennehy. A rugged adventurer returns to the land and the love he left behind three years previously. However, not everybody is pleased to see him. Directed by Geoff Burrows. (1216755) 10.20pm London Today (Teletext) and weather (6780001)
  - 12.30pm News (Teletext) and weather (662846)
  - 12.55pm Home and Away (Teletext) (6670665) 1.25pm Emmerdale (s) (Teletext) (7315157) 1.55pm A Country Practice (s) (6652233) 2.20pm Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (58821372) 2.50pm Gardeners' Diary with John Ravenscroft (1844020)
  - 3.20pm ITN News headlines (4917223) 3.25pm London Today (Teletext) and weather (4916594)
  - 3.30pm The Riddlers (s) (6125391) 3.40pm Wzadora (s) (6125391) 3.50pm Garfield and Friends (s) (6758001) 4.15pm Saturday Superstar (Teletext) (s) (7065709) 4.40pm Stanley's Dream (s) (Teletext) (s) (7045222)
  - 5.10pm After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (4653946)
  - 5.40pm News (Teletext) and weather (750730)
  - 5.55pm Hour Show: Viewers' opinions (680468)
  - 6.00pm Home and Away (s) (Teletext) (643)
  - 6.30pm London Tonight with Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (652855)



Cooper, Hornby and Leeze (6.50pm)

- 6.50pm Emmerdale. Ned (Johnny Leeze) and Jack (Clive Horley) find themselves in trouble when Jack tries to confront Derek (Gary Cooper) (Teletext) (684329)
- 7.20pm The European Match. Live. Bob Wilson presents coverage of the match between Sampdoria and Arsenal. NB: In the event of extra time/penalties, subsequent programmes are subject to delay or change (8041044)
- 9.30pm Oddballs. Eamonn Holmes takes a look at some sporting out-takes (72848)
- 10.00pm News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (37285)
- 10.30pm London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (243575)
- 10.40pm The Frost Programme. David Frost, his guests and a studio audience discuss matters pertinent to Londoners (s) (238468)
- 11.40pm Carlton Sport — World League of American Football. Live. Carlton Sport presents highlights of the match between the London Monarchs and Düsseldorf Rhein Fire (144020)
- 12.15pm The Little Picture Show with Mariella Frostrup (s) (555337)
- 1.15pm The Best (s) (544421)
- 2.15pm The Album Show (s) (s) (545773)
- 3.15pm America's Top Ten (s) (s) (43373112)
- 3.40pm Sport AM (s) (2817537)
- 4.35pm Videoflash. A guide to the hits of the spring and summer 1995 collections (3733960)
- 5.00pm Vanessa (s) (Teletext) (s) (25131)
- 5.30pm ITN Morning News (64247). Ends at 6.00

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.35am Spill and Hercules (7356843)
  - 7.00am The Big Breakfast (12001)
  - 9.00pm Little Wonders (s) (47652)
  - 9.30pm California Dance. Sly needs a date for the Romance Dance. (6794117)
  - 9.55pm Gamesmaster (s) (s) (6702136)
  - 10.25pm Batman: Black Widow Strikes Again. (2138038)
  - 10.55pm The Adventures of Tintin (s) (5942827)
  - 11.20pm Pugsley's Summer. Pugsley is forced to go on a family holiday (s) (5686662)
  - 11.50pm Terrytoons: Classic cartoons (8324578)
  - 12.00pm House to House with Maya Even (34158)
  - 12.30pm Sesame Street. The guest is JoJo Fister (s) (27049) 1.30pm The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (s) (5625333)
  - 1.55pm The Great Outdoors (s) (Teletext) (55231730)
  - 2.25pm Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket. "Brough-Scott introduces live coverage of the 2.35, 3.05, 3.40 and 4.10 races (s) (64667907)
  - 4.30pm Fitness-to-One (Teletext) (s) (420)
  - 5.00pm Ricki Lake: I'm Going to Change the Way You Look. Spouses express their dislike about their partners and makeover stylists ring the changes in the studio (s) (Teletext) (6639515)
  - 5.45pm Bird's Life. Czech animation from Macourek, Dobrava and Born. (757643)
  - 6.00pm The Cosby Show: Goodbye Mr. Fish. Family comedy (s) (Teletext) (285)
  - 6.30pm Saved by the Bell: The College Years. To cope with the death of a popular teacher, Zack decides to live life to the full and goes sky-diving (Teletext) (685)
  - 7.00pm Channel 4 News followed by weather (Teletext) (597440)
  - 7.50pm The Slot Wars! soapbox series (562198)
  - 8.00pm Memories in Store. A look at the stories behind the goods unpacked from crates in a storage warehouse, including wartime combat boots (s) (Teletext) (8778)



Comedian Jeremy Hardy Investigates (8.30pm)

- 8.30pm Food File (s) (Teletext) (7285)
- 9.00pm The Holylands (s) (Teletext) (9117)
- 10.00pm FILM: El Diablo (1990). Spoof western starring Anthony Edwards as a teacher in Texas whose pupil is abducted by an outlaw. Directed by Peter Markle (s) (Teletext) (4933)
- 12.00pm The Kids in the Hall. The Canadian comedy team takes a skewed look at life (s) (s) (Teletext) (4343709)
- 12.35pm Fighters. Following the progress of East End boxers training with Jimmy Tobs to become professionals, and former British and Commonwealth champion Mark Kaynor as he prepares for a comeback fight. (s) (632402)
- 2.35pm FILM: The Long Road Home (1989). Starring Daniel Förlster as a school dropout who takes a job in a summer camp while his fiancée's brother goes to fight in Vietnam. Directed by William Johnston. Ends at 4.05 (2058841)

- ANGLIA**
- As London except 12.00pm-12.05pm Anglia News (172822) 12.05pm-12.10pm Central News (172822) 12.10pm-12.15pm Central News (172822) 12.15pm-12.20pm Central News (172822) 12.20pm-12.25pm Central News (172822) 12.25pm-12.30pm Central News (172822) 12.30pm-12.35pm Central News (172822) 12.35pm-12.40pm Central News (172822) 12.40pm-12.45pm Central News (172822) 12.45pm-12.50pm Central News (172822) 12.50pm-12.55pm Central News (172822) 12.55pm-1.00pm Central News (172822) 1.00pm-1.05pm Central News (172822) 1.05pm-1.10pm Central News (172822) 1.10pm-1.15pm Central News (172822) 1.15pm-1.20pm Central News (172822) 1.20pm-1.25pm Central News (172822) 1.25pm-1.30pm Central News (172822) 1.30pm-1.35pm Central News (172822) 1.35pm-1.40pm Central News (172822) 1.40pm-1.45pm Central News (172822) 1.45pm-1.50pm Central News (172822) 1.50pm-1.55pm Central News (172822) 1.55pm-2.00pm Central News (172822) 2.00pm-2.05pm Central News (172822) 2.05pm-2.10pm Central News (172822) 2.10pm-2.15pm Central 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# Wells reminds selectors of wasted talent

Prints are being won and

the next ten days may seem quite long enough.

Wells's most recent century was in January of last year in South Africa, where he had first gone four years earlier, piqued at being overlooked by England and prepared to suffer the ban that followed. He sacrificed his likeliest years of Test cricket, but has matured as a leader after a headstrong start, and battled with quiet but unmistakable command.

He came to the crease after two early wickets, and with stormclouds gathering, Gallian had come in Donald's first

**Lefebvre's best, page 46**



# Inquiry casts long shadow over snooker championship

repeated the matter to the WPBSA, Thorne, who could not even accurately recall the exact year of the proposal, said that he had dismissed the offer with the contempt it deserved and thought it was merely the work of "a dreamer."

Photograph Page 46

**RESULTS:** First round: J Parrott bt B Morgan 10-6; J Swift leads N Gilbert 9-6; N Bond leads S Lile 5-4. Second round: P

mi. K Hitchcock, S Clarke, E Johnson, F  
G or G Hall, D Roberts, N Spedden, D Lee  
B Pascoe, P Furlong, M Sear.

**TIMES PUBLICATIONS:** The Times Classics: English Style & Language (HB) \$8.99. Japan, Nations of the World, Middle East, Grand University Guide 1995-96. The European Market (HB) \$12.99. The World Yearbook of Law 1995-96 (HB) \$16.99. European Yearbook of International Law 1995-96 (HB) \$16.99. The Times Guide to the New British Style (HB) \$17.99. The Times Maps (Foldable) The World 46" x 30" \$18.99. Ireland 26" x 33" \$19.99. British Isles 13" x 36" \$19.99. Microlandscapes: The Times Night Sky 1996 \$15.99. The Times Illustrated World History (PB) \$13.99. NEW! The Times Illustrated History of the World (HB) \$26. The Sunday Times Book of Answers \$4.99. Book of Brainscuzzers \$2.99. Progress (Pocket) PSP 11/90. Send changes with \$4.99. *See also* 1995-96. *See also* 1995-96. *See also* 1995-96. Delivery to 5 days. Tel: 01938 545 545. *See also* 1995-96. *See also* 1995-96.

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